

JULY.



A Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy, Adapted To the Wants of the People of the Mississippi Valley.

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The Valley Farmer.

WOODWARD & ABBOTT, PUBLISHERS.
EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Editor.

OFFICE 215 BROADWAY AND 203 FOURTH STREET,
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ST. LOUIS, MO.

TERMS.

THE VALLEY FARMER is published on the first of each month, each number containing 48 large octavo pages (including 8 pages devoted to advertisements of matters of interest to farmers,) and is offered at the following rates:—
Single copy, one year, \$1 00.
Four copies, \$3; seven copies, \$5; Fifteen copies, \$10.
Payments, in all cases, must be made in advance.—
Remittances in gold coins, current bank notes, or postage stamps, may be made by mail at our risk.
AGENTS.—Postmasters and Merchants throughout the country are authorized to act as Agents, and every friend of the enterprise is respectfully requested to aid in extending its circulation.
ADVERTISING.—Advertisements are inserted in the ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT of the Valley Farmer at the following rates:—One insertion of 12 lines, \$1; each additional insertion, 50 cents; 12 lines one year \$6; each additional 12 lines one year, \$4; one page, one insertion, \$7, each additional insertion, \$5; one page, yearly, \$60; Cards of six lines or less, one year, \$5.

Office Matters. Changing the Direction.
MANUS, Carroll Co., Mo., }
April 15, 1855. }

Dear Sir:—Please direct my Valley Farmer to the above office, and accommodate
Yours truly

We receive a great many letters just as indefinite as this. Why will not people notify us where the paper has been sent previously? Probably the writers think we ought to know, and perhaps we ought, but it would be much easier for them to name the place than for us to find it.

A March and a June number of the Valley Farmer have been sent back, marked,

"M. Galbraith, not taken out." Where does M. Galbraith live?

Mr. Hunter, at Macomb, Ill., can hand the amount of his subscription to the postmaster, and ask him to remit it, or send it himself, by mail, in postage stamps, at our risk.

B. B. Grigsby writes for us to send his paper to Columbus, Mo., where is it now sent? Please be particular in naming the post offices where your paper has been sent and where you wish it sent.

Agents for the Valley Farmer.

Hon. H. L. BROWN of Fayette, is our general agent for Howard county.

Mr. C. PATTERSON, of Lexington, is our general Agent for Lafayette county.

Rev. D. EMERSON, of Hannibal, is our general agent for Marion county.

Dr. J. M. MARTIN is our general agent for Calloway county.

We are anxious to obtain the services of some suitable person to act as general agent in every county in the State, to whom payments may be made and by whom subscriptions may be forwarded. This is not intended to supercede the efforts of friends in different sections in getting up clubs for the Farmer among their neighbors, but to complete such an organization as to secure the services of an active friend in every neighborhood. Every man who takes the Farmer is authorized to consider himself an agent for it, and is respectfully requested to do all in his power to extend the circulation of the paper.

Seedling Farmers.

Our readers have seen and heard of seedling apples, peaches, strawberries, pears, &c., but probably they have never before heard the term applied to men, and yet perhaps there is no impropriety in using it: indeed there may be a great deal of significance in its use. The phrase is not original with us, we caught it as it fell from the lips of an acquaintance who was walking with us among the heavily laden trees of a peach orchard, and we asked him what he meant, "Oh," said he, "I call all those farmers who have no desire to improve upon the old methods of farming; who are content to remain in a state of unprogressiveness while all around is astir with progress and improvement; who are content to do just as they saw their father did in their childhood,—cultivating as he cultivated, and in all things following out and acting upon the old foggy notions of a by-gone economy—I call such 'seedling farmers,' and the difference between such men and the active, go-a-head, progressive farmer is as palpable as between the miserable, shrivelled up worthless fruit on yon ungrafted peach trees, and the delicious, mellow, tempting specimens on this 'Crawford's Late,' of which you are now eating."

"But, my dear sir, seedling fruits are not always bad. Indeed, I find in looking over the catalogues of the nursery men, many kinds set down as 'seedlings' which we must suppose are superior or valuable fruits, or they would not be found in the catalogues."

"True, very true," said our friend, "but we are treating now of generals, not of particulars. In the use of illustrations we must be understood, that our parables hold good in the main features of the case, and not in a few rare things which are but exceptions to the great whole. That men have, by a careful and judicious experimenting with seedling fruits, obtained some fine varieties, is true—in fact all our fine fruit traced back will be found to have been seedlings at first. But as a class, seedling fruits are worthless, and let me tell you that

'seedling farmers' are not much better."

"But we have known many unlearned men who were the best kind of farmers."

"Exactly; that is if you call all men who have not learned from books, unlearned; but I make a different classification. A man may be a great reader of books and yet be what I call an unlearned farmer—a 'seedling;' and on the other hand, I have known men who never read a book in their lives, who are yet quite well posted in the principles of good farming: they have learned by observation, by conversation, and better yet by experience. The man who really wishes to improve, will strive to improve, and he will improve, and whenever he puts forth an effort to improve, he will improve, and from that moment will cease to be a 'seedling.' While the man who only reads to cavil, or does not profit by what he reads nor practice it, though his head may be as full of theories as the Crimea is of soldiers, is yet a 'seedling.'"

"Would you then discard books altogether?"

"Why, how ineffably stupid you are, and an editor at that! Pardon my bluntness, but really your question surprised me. I would have men gain knowledge from every source. The book—the periodical—is important, but not all-important, nor only important; men must read the great book of Nature, as it is unfolded in the blade of corn, and in the lofty oak; in all the forms of animate and inanimate life; and he must read this great volume, in order that he may draw lessons of practical improvement, which receiving, he must act upon in his own case. Nature never errs—books do occasionally, nay often; therefore it is that while the man who despises and rejects the important aid which is to be derived from books casts away from him one of the most important aids to the study of the great book of nature, the man who relies wholly on these adjuncts—making them his only instructor—is not any better off, if as well, and will likely continue to be all his life a 'seedling.'"

Have we any seedlings among our readers?

The Chinch Bug.

We have heard from various regions through the west by way of our exchanges, and by private letters that this little pest has done a great deal of damage to the growing crops and not unfrequently are we written to for a remedy, for some means to destroy them or prevent their ravages. This is rather a hard requirement, as they seem to be about as much under the control of human agency as the wind, which "bloweth where it listeth." A writer in the *Country Gentleman* writes of it as follows:

Though the name Chinch bug is generally applied to this insect, it has obtained other names in particular localities. All over North-western Illinois, they have been called Mormon lice, in consequence of their having come into that section about the same time that the self-styled Latter-day Saints commenced their settlement at Nauvoo, many ignorant people firmly believing they were introduced there by these deluded fanatics. And it appears from Mr. SMITH's letters, that in his vicinity, this insect is called the corn fly. This name, however Mr. SMITH himself will be aware, when he reflects further, is by no means so appropriate for this insect, as he supposed at the moment of writing. The name "fly" properly belongs only to insects with clear glass-like wings, like the common house-fly; while the name "bug," although it is in this country, currently applied to almost all insects, strictly belongs only to those which pertain to the Order *Hemiptera*, which embraces all those flat-backed insects which have a slender, sharp-pointed beak, for puncturing and sucking the fluids of those plants or animals which they infest—such insects as the common squash or pumpkin bug, and that disgusting object which at one time and another has obtruded itself upon the notice of every person in our land, the bed bug. The species under consideration, moreover, exhales the same disagreeable odor which is peculiar to the insects of this group. There can be no more appropriate name for it, than that

by which it has been so long and so widely known—that of *Chinch Bug*.

It is a singular fact, and one which shows that the science of entomology is of almost endless extent, that in those parts of Europe, where for several generations a host of collectors and men of science have been assiduously engaged in gathering and describing every insect which those countries contain, new species continue to turn up almost every year. Even in the environs of the city of Paris, which may be regarded as the head-quarters of this science, and where almost every inch of the ground has often been examined with the greatest care and the most searching scrutiny, my esteemed friend and correspondent, Dr. SINOET, has recently discovered a new insect, which, from the specimens he has been so kind as to send me, I find to be almost identical with the chinch bug of this country. This species he proposes to name the *Micropus Spinola*, in honor of the distinguished entomologist who founded the genus to which it pertains, and who has done so much to elucidate this important Order of insects. In view of such facts, who can refrain from devoutly exclaiming with the inspired Psalmist, "How manifold are thy works, O Lord!" And what an amount of close observation and patient, persevering research will it require to render our knowledge of the insects of our own country tolerably complete.

BEE MOTH.—Where peach leaves, pounded with salt, are put under a beehive, I have not seen a bee-moth. Although my hives have heretofore suffered much from this source, the adoption of this plan has caused the moths to come out missing.—*Prairie Farmer*.

DESTRUCTION OF THE LATOURETTE OIL WORKS.—We are sorry to announce the entire destruction on the 26th of June, of the Latourette Oil Works, situated on the corner of Second and Morgan streets, in this city. This establishment has been in operation some two years, during which time it has afforded a market for a large quan-

tity of flax seed and castor beans, which have been manufactured into oils, thereby adding no inconsiderable item to the trade of our city. Mr. Latourette had set up in this establishment, some superior presses of his own invention, of great power, and was beginning to realize some return of profit for the many years of toil and labor devoted to the work necessary to getting such an establishment into successful operation, when in an hour the whole was reduced to a mass of ruins.

We learn that Mr. Latourette will commence rebuilding immediately and that he hopes in two months' time to be ready to commence work again. The entire loss, exclusive of the building, is about \$40,000, on which there was no insurance. Every precaution was taken to prevent fire, and a man was kept constantly in the building. How the fire originated is a mystery, as the fires were all put out the evening previous, and every precaution taken to guard against such casualties. Mr. L. thinks it the work of an incendiary. This is the second time his establishment has been burnt within a few years.

KINGSLANDS & FERGUSON'S THRESHING MACHINES AND HORSE POWERS.—We would call the attention of the farming community to the advertisements of these gentlemen. In our last issue a mistake was made in the price of the Thresher and Cleaner with four horse lever power. In our paper the price was given at \$160 instead of \$260, which is the price at which they are sold.

MISTAKES.

Some of our readers have discovered that our printer made a grand mistake in the May and a portion of the June number of the Valley Farmer in relation to the prices of Wheeler's Horse-powers, Threshers, Winnowers, &c. The words "Prices in St. Louis" were accidentally put over the list of Albany prices, and some of our friends have supposed that they could buy these articles at those rates in St. Louis, and have sent in their orders accordingly.

We would inform all such that those prices published in that list are the manufacturer's prices at Albany, N. Y. to which we have to add the costs of transportation to St. Louis. In our May number we sent out a small circular of our establishment, which contained the prices of Messrs. Wheeler, Melick & Co.'s articles with transportation added.

MORE FINE STOCK.—We saw, the other day on the J. H. Lucas steamer, six head of cattle and a mare and colt, belonging to a Mr. Elliot, a gentleman who has recently removed from Kentucky to Clay county, Mo. They were splendid animals, all of them, and we doubt not will be around after some silver cups next fall. The colt was as fine a specimen of juvenile horse-flesh as we ever looked upon.

JEFFERSON COUNTY.—We are glad to hear that Jefferson county has waked up to the importance of making a move for improvement. We learn by a letter from one of our friends in that county that the people intend holding a meeting in the town of Hillshoro on the first Monday of August next for the purpose of organizing a county agricultural Society. The letter invites us to be with them on that occasion, an invitation with which if convenient, we shall cheerfully comply.

IMPROVED CATTLE FOR ILLINOIS.—The Chicago Democrat, states that there is an "Illinois Breeding Association," located at Summit, Cook county, and that they have just received from Col. MORRIS, Mount Fordham, six imported thorough-bred Durham cows, all in calf by the imported bull Duke of Gloster. The association previously possessed four calves by Balco, two bulls and two heifers. "The bull calves from these six cows," says the Democrat, "they expect to cross upon the Balco heifers. And the bull calves from Balco they expect to cross upon the heifers from the Duke of Gloster. This, then, will be the starting of the Summit herd of cattle. And, when people purchase, they will know exactly

what they get. The pedigree being fixed, purchasers can suit themselves as to size, color and form, and the present imposition in trading off impure breeds of cattle for thorough-bred can be broken up, as no bull will be sold there whose pedigree on both sides will not be printed in the Herd Book."

The Harvest and the Crops.

This number of our paper will find most of our readers busy in the harvest field gathering in wheat we believe to be one of the most bountiful harvests ever bestowed upon the West. From a few limited sections we hear unfavorable reports, but as a general thing, we hear cheering news of an abundant harvest, and as the breadth of ground sown to wheat last fall far exceeded any previous season, we think we are fully warranted in estimating the present as considerably above an average crop; we should say throughout the entire Western Valley—from one-third to two-fifths. The corn crop never looked better at this season of the year than now. It was put in with a will, and a much larger quantity of ground planted than usual, and if no mishap occurs between this and gathering time, our farmers will have "corn to sell or keep" in abundance. Surely the farmers of this happy land have abundant cause for thankfulness to the Great Being who crowns the year with his blessings.

Ohio & Mississippi Railroad.

The last rail on the Western Division of the road, connecting St. Louis and Vincennes, Ia., was laid on Saturday, the 30th of June, 1855, and on the 4th of July, the road was formally opened by a celebration at Vincennes. About 400 of the citizens of St. Louis, went over the road that day and returned the next morning. A continuous railroad communication is now obtained by St. Louis with Louisville, Cincinnati, and the Eastern cities, by the way of Terre Haute. When the Eastern division of the road is finished there will be a road but little varying from an air line between us and Cincinnati. The western division

passes through a very rich and fertile country into the luxuriant valley of the Wabash, and will open to the enterprise of St. Louis a valuable trade, if a wise and liberal policy is pursued by its citizens and the managers of the road. We hope the conductors of the road will remember that the public are to be accommodated, and that the tariff for freight and passengers should be put as low as prudence will allow. The lower the rates, the more business they will do, and we believe that a large business with small profits is as good policy for a railroad as "large sales and small profits" is for a merchant. We hope to see the road extended over the dike to the ferry-landing, and then, if the rates of fare, times of running &c. are such as justify it, hundreds of the citizens of St. Louis will seek a home along the line of the road, in the pleasant villages, and on the fertile farms which offer so many inducements to the pent up citizen.

A WISE PLAN.—A farmer in Marion county writes to us as follows: "We have rather a gloomy prospect for corn, in consequence of the immense numbers of chinch bugs prevailing in my neighborhood, therefore I have raised a good quantity of beets, cabbages, and if my turnips succeed, I shall fare pretty well even though the bug destroys my corn."

Illinois Mower.

We have for sale one Illinois Mower, Haines' Patent. Our readers will notice Messrs. Haines' advertisement in that department of our paper. The Mower may be seen at our warehouse.

MORE FINE STOCK.—We saw a fine lot of 12 young Short-Horns in our streets the other day. They were from the Shaker Society, at Pleasant Hill, Ky., brought hither for sale. They have since been sold to different individuals in this vicinity. Mr. Burnett, the agent of the Society, informs us that they have sold upwards of thirty head of their choicest animals in this city the present season.

Correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

An Agricultural Warehouse.

SEXTON's, Boon Co., Mo., June 6, '55.

E. ABBOTT, Esq.,—*Sir*:—I was pleased to see the communication from Crittenden, Davies Co., Mo., signed Peter Bear, on the Subject of an Agricultural Warehouse, Seed Store and Machine Shop, at some of Missouri river towns. I should think Boonville the best point. Be that as it may, such an establishment is more needed in upper Missouri than anything that occurs to my mind now.

I have lived in Missouri fourteen years and in Boone county seven, and have been to some extent acquainted with the farming operations of the adjoining counties; but I had never seen a good plow in Missouri until last fall, when I imported some of the "Empire Steel Plows" from Richmond, Indiana, and upon trial found them even better than I expected. I had examined them in Richmond some three years since, and gave them the preference over any I had seen during my tour of more than two thousand miles by land in my own conveyance, and at easy stages, visiting those places and seeing those things in which I took the greatest interest. No doubt you have good plows in St. Louis; but I have sent there once and failed to get such as pleased me, and I determined to get those I had examined and approved.

I make the above statement merely to show difficult it is for farmers in upper Missouri to get good plows and other farming implements when they are not made nor kept for sale in any reasonable distance. Each little farmer who needs a plow cannot go to St. Louis, examine and purchase for himself such as his judgment approves, together with other valuable implements of which every farmer should have the advantage. I know extensive and intelligent farmers in Boone county who never have seen a good plow, and who use to this day, the old fashioned rooters, which require double the power, and then only half do the work, of a good plow. Thousands of farming utensils would be bought and

used here if they were more accessible, which never will, or not for a long time to come, if they are not brought more immediately under the notice of the farmers.

In many respects, Missouri is ten or more years behind her young sister, Illinois, and one reason is that agricultural implements have not been sent into this market.

Please call the attention again of dealers in agricultural implements to the prospects presented by Boonville. and many other up country towns, for a profitable business. A few such establishments would do more to advance the agricultural interests of Missouri than any one enterprise that could be set on foot.

Yours, &c.,

J. M. P.

For the Valley Farmer.

Improvement—The Locusts.

OSAGE Co., Mo. June 18th 1855.—As it has been a long time since I contributed my mite to the "Farmer" I thought perhaps that a few lines would do some little in the way of information. There is in this part of the country, more of the spirit of enterprise, and of industry, generally manifested than was ever seen before. The almost total failure of the crops in this section of country last year seems to have infused into breast of every one a determination to excel in the present crop. The spirit of inquiry is aroused, how to best prevent another injury to the crops by drought. The subject of deep plowing is inquired into by many, who never before thought of it or if they thought of it at all, it was only to ridicule the idea. Nor are our Farmers unrewarded so far, for never in my recollection, did Osage county present such a flattering appearance as it does at this time wheat crops look most flattering scarce a field can be seen but that if it does not get injured will make more than an average yield. Harvest will soon be here, by the last of this month, at any rate, corn crops look excellent though owing to the weather some fields are injured some by the green squirrel, an article very injurious

1855.

but farmers know well how to drive it out as soon the ground is in a proper state, health is remarkably good; in this section, in fact everything presents a cheerful aspect. The Railroad running through our county is progressing finely, the contractors are sanguine that by the month of November the iron horse will be able to wing his lightning way to Jefferson city, which will bring us in close proximity to St. Louis, so that we will be able to compete with some of our sister counties in the way of getting the value of our produce—a thing the lack of which has kept us much in the back ground. The Locusts are here; almost in myriads, and are injuring the timber to a considerable extent; the old saying in regard to their coming every fourteen years will not do, or if it will, they made a mistake and came a year too soon. Can any of the readers of the Farmer tell me what kind of a thing their eggs comes too or where do they go, and what do the Locusts eat while here if they can; I should like to hear it, for this process is ahead of my "persimmon," thought I have closely observed them. I expect by this time you are tired of reading my scribble without there was more information, so I will just drop the subject till next month.

Yours,

OSAGE FARMER.

For the Valley Farmer.

RALLS Co., June 2d. 1855.

MR. ABBOTT, Sir.—Having had occasion a few days ago, to try the following receipt and finding it to effect a cure in a very short time, I feel anxious that your many readers should have the benefit of it. A receipt for a disease of colts called *scours*.—Take three eggs, one tea-cup of wheat flour, one tea-cup full of ground coffee, boiled in a quart of water, beat the eggs and flour together and put them into the coffee and let it boil a short time, give half a pint each morning until a cure is effected. I had a colt that was almost dead with it, I only gave it twice before it effected a cure.

Yours &c.

JAMES P. MOORE.

For the Valley Farmer.

Cost of Fences.

MR. ABBOTT.—In the department of labor to which your publication is devoted, the *cost of fences* is a very important subject of inquiry and investigation. Will you please, sir, stir up some of your best correspondents in different places, and let us have a valuable fund of information on this subject—*reliable statistical facts* about the costs and durability of different kinds of fences in different parts of our country.

I have ascertained that in this country the cheapest plank fences and the commonest rail fences cost about the same; and never less than \$500 per mile. A good medium rail worm fence costs \$600 per mile. A *first-rate* rail worm fence and a good post and rail fence cost almost exactly the same, and not less than \$700 per mile. The most of the fences within ten miles of the city, now made are *first-rate* plank fences; and with the utmost *scheming*, purchase of material and plans of construction, I find they invariably cost, by large quantities \$800 per mile.

Two strings of plank fence (twenty miles each side) of forty miles on the Pacific Railroad are now being constructed, for which the company are to pay \$750 per mile.

The fencing of the first one hundred miles on the North Missouri Railroad has been let; and posts and plank for its construction are now being delivered in large quantities both at St. Louis and St. Charles. And, with all the favorable circumstances of *location*—the advantages of *easy access* to the best markets—the *largeness* of the quantity let, with all the zeal of strong compacts of rival bidders—this fencing is to cost but little short of \$700 per mile.

These rates of *cost of fences* are continually coming nearer and nearer to the general average throughout the country as prairies become more occupied and railroads are extending.

Mr. Editor, I wish to elicit free communications from others on this subject. Let

us hear from different persons and places all about the *cost of fences*. I close by adding some remarks of one of our city editors last week in noticing my card:

"The amount of capital employed in the construction and repair of fences in the United States, would be deemed fabulous, were not the estimates founded on statistical facts which admit of no dispute.—Strange as it may seem, the greatest investments in this country, the most costly productions of human industry, are the common fences that divide the fields from the highways, and separate them from each other. No man dreams that when compared with the outlay for those unpretended monuments of art, our cities and our towns with all their wealth are left far behind."

LOGAN SLEEPER.

St. Louis, Mo., June 22, 1855.

For the Valley Farmer.

Warts.

To cure warts on horses or mules, throw them on the ground, and after making them very secure with a good rope, cut the warts out almost or quite to the bone, if on the leg, or elsewhere cut as deep as you can well, after first having prepared a hot iron and a small quantity of rosin to sprinkle on the place, and burn with the iron in order to stop the blood arteries; this burning is not necessary only after very large warts. If the warts can be tied up—get some dry and fresh manure from the stable and fasten on for twelve or more hours, and then after washing the place with good soft water and soap clean; prepare in a two ounce vial a strong solution of potash caustic, to be put on with a feather—this put on carefully will be certain to eat out all the roots, and the place heals up as soon as the roots are all eat out. Washing and this application should be kept up two or three times a week. Potash caustic will cure the worst ring worm or wart in three minutes. Cut the wart off your hand until it nearly or quite bleeds—then after three minutes wash off and apply a little sweet oil; two minutes is long enough to burn a child under twelve years.

In all cases wash off and cure up the place with sweet oil.

Mr. Editor, I hope the above remedy will answer and prove a certain cure for your correspondent. And now sir, I want some person to tell me how I can cure up a very desperate case of the Fistula. I have a fine colt that has been more than a year laboring under this disease, and after using arsenic, corrosive sublimate, sulphuric ether and other severe remedies, I have almost despaired of ever curing him.

Howard county.

F. M. P.

REMARKS.—This may be an effectual method, but to our mind a less cruel one would be more desirable, and we should adopt the treatment recommended by Dr. Kavanaugh, in the following communication in preference, at all events, until we found it ineffectual.

For the Valley Farmer.

WARTS.—A correspondent in your issue for June desires "Some information as to the cheapest and most certain method of removing warts from stock, especially mules." As you decline an answer and refer the question to your correspondents; I venture to give you the following "cheap" and "certain" remedy.

Take a silk or flaxen cord of moderate thickness, well waxed and pass it around the base of the wart at least twice, and, keeping it well down to the place, draw it very tight and tie it fast and keep it on until the wart dies and drops off. The only difficulty in performing this simple operation is to cause the ligature to sink under the wart as it is drawn firmly around it. The better to secure this object it may be necessary to take a sharp knife or any delicate instrument, and turn up the skin slightly from the base of the wart outward, so as to form a slight groove, in which the ligature may bed itself. The skin, however should not be cut so deep as to bleed of any consequence.

This process effects the cure by cutting off the circulation from the wart and causing its death by the want of the vital fluids

from the living animal. Care should be taken, therefore, to see that this effect is produced by the ligature. If the first application is not successful a second ligature must be applied inside of the first, without moving it until the second is firmly secured in its place, and thus continue to apply them until the object is secured. I have removed many warts from the hands of ladies, by this process and can see no good reason why it should not answer as well for mules, if it is properly applied. No danger need be apprehended from hemorrhage when the wart falls off; for all the vessels going to nourish the wart are effectually and permanently closed by the stricture of the ligature. K.

SUMMERVILLE, Ill., June 22, 1855.

ANOTHER REMEDY.—A correspondent at Pleasant Hill, Mo., gives the following receipt: Put as much salt in a bottle of good whiskey as will dissolve, and bathe the part with the solution, after having pared off enough of the wart to make it bleed a little.

County Fairs in Missouri.

PIKE COUNTY.—Oct. 3, 4, 5. *Officers,* Jas. O. Broadhead, President; Wm. Penix, Vice President; Wm. Bolton, Secretary; Alexander McDonald Treasurer; Robt. Steele, Chief Marshal.

JACKSON COUNTY.—Oct. 9, 10, 11, 12. *Officers,* Judge Brooking President; S. D. Lyons, Treasurer; E. R. Hickman, Secretary. *Directors,* S. H. Woodson, Larkin Maddox, J. B. Wurrall, Wm. B. Howard, R. G. Smart, J. F. Stonestreet, E. P. Noland, Sam'l Ralston, John Hambright, R. M. Stith. The list of premiums amounts to near \$ 1,300.

DAVIES COUNTY.—An Agricultural society has been organized in Davies Co., of which John H. McNeil, is President; Peter Bean, V. P., P. R. Wirt, Treas., and Thos. T. Frame, Secretary.

CALLAWAY COUNTY.—Sept., 18, 19, 20.

HOWARD COUNTY.—Oct. 8, 9, 10. A good "band of music" will be secured for the occasion. Hon. J. S. GREEN, of Lewis has been selected to deliver the Annual Ad-

dress to the Society and Gen. Wm. SHIELDS, of Lafayette, alternate.

All EDITORS are invited to attend the Fair free of charge. By calling on the Secretary they will be furnished with a *Badge* that will admit them to the grounds, and a "complimentary ticket," that will admit them into the large and commodious stand erected for the Directory, where they can see and be seen of all.

BOONE COUNTY.—Sept. 24, 25, 26, 27, **RANDOLPH COUNTY.**—Sept. 6, 7, 8.

CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY.—A number of the citizens of this county assembled at the Court-House in Jackson, June 28, for the object of holding a preliminary meeting for the purpose of organizing a county agricultural society. A committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws for the government of the contemplated society, and to making their report at an adjourned meeting, to be held on the 4th of July.

OWEN'S PRAIRIE PLOW.—Extract of a letter to the Editor of the Valley Farmer, dated: Council City, K. T. June 24, 1855.

"The plow that we purchased of you answered well; quite up to your recommendation, and better than any other in the Territory. Yours, JOHN DREW."

State Fairs.

Missouri, at Boonville	Oct. 2, 3, 4, 5.
Iowa, at Fairfield,	Oct. 9, 10, 11
East Tennessee, at London,	" 23, 24, 25
New York,	" 2, 3, 4, 5
Connecticut, at Hartford,	" 9, 10, 11, 12
North Carolina,	" 16, 17, 18, 19
Michigan, at Detroit,	" 2, 3, 4, 5
Indiana, at Indianapolis,	" 17, 18, 19
Virginia, at Richmond,	
Tennessee, at Nashville,	First week in Oct.
Maryland, at Baltimore,	Last week in Oct.
Illinois, at Chicago,	Sec'd week in Oct.
New-Hampshire,	Sept. 12, 13, 14
Vermont, at Rutland,	11, 12, 13
Western Virginia, at Wheeling Island,	
Sept. 26, 27, 28	
Ohio, at Columbus,	Sept. 18, 19, 20, 21
New Jersey, at Camden,	" 19, 20, 21
Kentucky, at Paris,	" 25, 26, 27, 28
Georgia, at Atlanta,	" 10, 11, 12, 13
Pennsylvania,	last week in Sept.

Correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

Crops in the South.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 24, 1855.

Dear Sir:—I have just returned from an extensive tour through North Alabama, Georgia, and East Tennessee. The wheat crop is invariably good, and in near 1000 miles travel I had the first cornfield to see that the ground was not in most excellent order, and the prospect for this great staple was never better. The culture of wheat is receiving increased attention, and our farm operations are fast changing—becoming more diversified,—leading to a better culture, and to general agricultural thrift. Our people have seen and experienced the folly of depending wholly upon one crop, and hence wheat, corn, oats, rye, stock, &c., are finding a place and securing attention on almost every plantation, that in the exigencies of the season, bread may abound in every household.

We have three State Fairs this fall in Tennessee—one in each of its geographical divisions—East, Middle and West Tennessee. The agricultural and wealth-producing superiority of the South is now rapidly being developed.

Yours truly,

A.

Correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

CLAY Co., Mo., June 1855.

Mr. ABBOT.—Crops in this county look well except Hemp, which will be far short of an average one. The early sowing is too thin and the late sowing has been greatly injured by the heavy rains. Wheat looks remarkably well and farmers are preparing for the harvest. Corn is in a good condition and looks fine. Oats will come in early and we will have a large crop in this county. This is one of the best counties in the State for emigrants to settle in. Land is cheaper than in the counties above, and lays better for cultivation.

Yours,

B. E. M.

For the Valley Farmer.

Bugs.

Mr. Editor,—Sir:—There is a small bug similar to the potato bug which is de-

stroying nearly all the mellow vines in my neighborhood. You would oblige me by letting one know some remedy through your paper. The Chinch bugs are also very bad on the wheat.

Yours Respectfully,

SUBSCRIBER.

Ralls Co., May 24th, 1855.

HOW TO GET RID OF OFFENSIVE SMELLS.

The Country Gentleman gives all those, either in city or country who are suffering from offensive odors from styes or other sources, a brief hint as to *one way* which may be employed either in city or country to neutralize or correct the odors of stable, vault or styre, which are felt by every one to be offensive. Where adding to the value of manure of manure is an object fully as important as the getting rid of an offensive smell, then an application of swamp muck previously exposed to summer heat and winter cold, or of plaster, or of charcoal dust, or of loamy soil, will be preferable to the plan herewith proposed, but where the getting rid of an offensive odor is the principal object, then the method in the statement which follows, is one which may be copied at as little expense and with as little inconvenience as any other. Sulphuric acid diluted with a considerable quantity of water, might be as cheap an application, and as effectual, but there would be some risk of burning or injuring person or clothes, at least with careless persons, and on this account the sulphate of iron application, the account of which we subjoin, is on the whole, preferable.

"Mr. Robert Austin, of 65 George street, Manchester, (England) informed the Council that upwards of a ton of horse-dung was produced in his stables daily, and that the usual offensive odor and evaporation from it were entirely prevented, by sprinkling over the dung heap, by means of an ordinary watering can, a solution of a pound of common green copperas in a gallon of water. The value of this chemical agent in fixing ammonia and strengthening manure, had been long known, but Mr. Austin's practical application might be considered simple, effective, and easily adopted in similar cases."

To this statement, taken from the *Farm-*

er's Magazine, we would only add that in most cases where a considerable bulk of surface is to be sprinkled, more than a gallon of water might be advantageously used for each pound of copperas.

Seed Drills.

The Belleville Tribune has the following notice of Pennock's Patent Grain Planter, which is for sale at the Valley Farmer Office. We have learned from various sources that wheat sown with this machine stood the excessive drouth of last fall and this spring far better than any sown broadcast, and also that in no instance has it been found to be winter-killed. We commend it to our wheat growing friends as an implement equally as valuable as the reaper and threshing machine.

We are glad to be informed that these labor saving and very useful machines are taking well with the farmers. J. B. Rentchler, the manufacturer in this city, sold about forty last year and had it not been for the general drought in the West, the demand would have far exceeded the supply. For next fall he is making one hundred, in addition to those now on hand (about seventy). Mr. R. has already made engagements with farmers for fully one half of these, and orders are coming in so fast that he thinks he will be hardly able to supply all. We would recommend to those who are in want of these excellent Drills to apply immediately, else they may not get them.

The advantages of the Rentchler Drill have been abundantly attested, and we are of opinion that few farmers in the State, whose ground will admit of its use, will be long without it. The great economy of employing these machines in planting, and the saving in wheat (requiring one bushel to the acre only), together with the fact that wheat sown with the Drill does not freeze out like grain sown broadcast, added to the further truth that the yield is from three to eight bushels to the acre more than by the old system, are strong inducements why they should be purchased and used extensively.

We are not writing a news paper puff, but our remarks are sincere and earnest. Some time ago a well known farmer of this county bought a Drill of Mr. Rentchler, conditionally. It was agreed that the purchaser could either pay the price of the Drill in money, or Mr. R. would take the excess of wheat raised on forty acres of land planted with the Drill over the amount grown on forty acres sown in

the ordinary way. The ground was to be adjoining and the same quantity of grain sown on each. The farmer has long since paid the money, and has expressed his belief that the excess of twenty acres would have more than paid the price asked for the Drill. We have been shown a letter written by a farmer in Centerville, which is highly complementary of these machines.

Best Mode of Raising Wood.

I have tried a good many years to raise oaks, chestnuts and other kinds of trees, but met with no success, planting them as I did in drills, in common soil. Not one would sprout. In the summer of 1853 I noticed several sprouts as I was working under a chestnut tree, and in digging down through the leaves I came to the nuts from which the sprouts came. I took the hint, and the next fall I procured a quantity of nuts, thinking I would imitate nature; I prepared a rich bed, strewing the nuts thickly on top of the soil, covering them with leaves. All the nuts came up and are now doing finely. This manner of planting is only to be observed for those trees that are designed for transplanting. For wood lots I would recommend the following mode of planting. Select a still day. Let one man drop the seed eight feet apart each way, covering them with a small handful of leaves. Let another man follow with a barrow of heavy soil, sprinkling on just enough to keep the leaves from blowing away. Two men in this manner can plant one acre in one day with ease.—*Boston Cultivator.*

FLOUR AND POTATOES.—One hundred pounds of good wheat flour contain 90 lbs of pure nutritive matter and 10 pounds of water. One hundred lbs. of potatoes contain from 20 to 26 pounds of nutritive matter, consisting almost entirely of starch, and 77 1-2 lbs. of water and inert matter. It requires 400 lbs. of potatoes to supply the amount of nutriment that 100 lbs. of wheat flour supply. The best potatoes weigh about 64 lbs. to the bushel, and a bushel, contains 15 1-5 lbs. of nutriment. The common white bean contains about 92 per cent, of nutritive matter.

FINE HOGS.—We noticed some fine hogs landed at our wharf the other day—property of Judge H. L. Brown, of this county. They were purchased in Knox county, Illinois, at a cost of \$35 a pair,—are nine months old, and are of the celebrated Suffolk (English) breed. They were fine looking porkers for their age, and if no accident befalls them, will make extensive additions to the Judge's stock of Silver ware, before the time the fall fair is over.—*Glasgow Times.*

MONSTROUS PIE PLANT.—We received some time since, several of the largest stalks of Pie Plant we ever saw, which upon being cooked were delicious, entirely disproving the old proverb, that the best articles are always put up in small parcels, for the excellence of these specimens as much exceeded that of the article ordinarily found in the market, as it exceeded it in size. They were from the nursery of Mr. P. B. Calhoun, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, who after paying considerable attention to the plant has at length brought it to greater perfection probably than any other man. We regret that we did not have an opportunity to weigh and measure, but cook got it into the sauce pan before we could do it. We may state, however, that we have it from good authority that from one root of the plant was cut a quantity which after being trimmed ready for cooking weighed forty-eight pounds, and certainly as much more was left on the root, uncut, making the products of one root nearly, if not quite, one hundred pounds! Three stalks were sent to the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune, which weighed eleven and a quarter pounds. A single stalk has been cut which weighed 6 1-2 lbs. was 26 inches long and 13 inches in circumference; its leaf was 22 feet in circumference. Mr. Calhoun will send the roots carefully packed in boxes to any part of the country at the following rates, ten roots for \$5, five roots for \$3; one root for \$1. Orders for roots may be left at the Valley Farmer office.

For the Valley Farmer.
Zimmerman Wheat.

MARINE, MADISON CO., ILL., July 1855

Dear Sir:—I have been taking your paper since Jan. last, and like it very much; you may calculate on several more subscribers from Marine next spring; for several of my neighbors have said they will take it. I would like to know something concerning the Zimmerman wheat; how it yields, whether hardy or not? how much to sow per acre; and the best time for sowing; where a pure article of it could be had; and the price, I want to sow some this

fall if I can ascertain how it does. If you will answer these inquiries by letter, through your paper or any other way that is convenient, you will not only confer a favor on me but several of your patrons in this prairie. I am young and have commenced farming and I want to get the best seed. I raised about thirty acres of May wheat this summer, but the heads are small, and it will not yield much. It grows too rank, mine all fell down and was very bad to harvest. Please answer these questions and oblige, Your friend, truly,

J. B. PARKER.

It would be well for persons who have the Zimmerman wheat for sale to inform our friend Parker and all others who may wish to purchase through the Valley Farmer.

Correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

SUMMERFIELD, Ill., June 22, '55.

BRO. ABBOTT.—I send you a brief answer to a small enquiry in your very useful paper. Not because I deem the subject of such *vital importance* as to call forth a great effort; but because it is a dull, rainy day and if I do not keep myself employed I shall get the blues and go into the figgits. This, then, is my apology.

We have glorious prospects in Looking Glass Prairie, thus far, for a fine crop of every variety of farm products. But so much wet weather just as our wheat is ready for harvesting is enough to try the nerves of a young farmer on a young farm.

I am obliged to you and your wife for the compliments you give our prairie and new town. I hope when our town is finished you will see something worth noticing. But from present prospects I apprehend it will take many years to complete it, as it grows larger by degrees and beautifully grand. Yours very truly,

B. T. K.

PROFITS OF ORCHARDS.—A distinguished Agriculturist, who has 1000 apple trees, and intends to set out as many more says that if apples will sell at twenty-five cents per bushel, they are his most profitable crop; and if they will not sell they are the cheapest food he can raise for all kinds of animals.

From the Missouri Republican.

Educate The Farmer.

From the soil and its products all that supports life is derived, and the better the work of the farmer is done, the better and the more abundant will be the supply of all that is necessary for the comfortable subsistence of man. Without disputing the time-honored saying that "contrivance is better than hard work," we may contend that contrivance renders hard work more available, and useful knowledge, which is the parent of all good contrivances, can no where be more appropriately bestowed to promote the general welfare of society than upon the rising generation of farmers. We are a money-loving and a money-getting people, and are little disposed to give our time or labor to any project which promises no immediate return in visible and tangible dollars, and yet we are not wholly impervious to compunctions of conscience, which induce a portion of mankind, at least, to make some provision for the generations which follow.

The late census returns of the United States give more than five-sixths of the capital of the nation to the agricultural interests. Add utility and stability to this account, and the farmers' honest share in the valuable property of the nation would come nearer to nine-tenths. For this representation of nine tenths of the substantial property of the American nation the farmers have not one high-school, college, or seminary to prepare our young men and suitably qualify them for the intelligent performance of the duties of their vocation. There is no school for farmers, no school for mechanics, nor merchants, no school for the cultivation of both mind and body! With no exception, certainly no one of sufficient notoriety to command a name, there is not an institution within the confines of the nation to which a young man can resort, who would qualify himself to discharge in a useful, intelligent and profitable manner, the most important, the most indispensable business of an American citizen, that of a Farmer. As it relates to mechanics, and merchants, and in fact to all the more practical and essential duties of an American citizen, the same deficiency prevails. We compare our free and enlightened institutions with those of aristocratic Europe. But cast an eye upon Switzerland, Prussia, and many of the German states, where schools for instruction in the science of agriculture are established, which young men from the United States who desire such instruction, and can meet the cost, with shame we record the fact, are compelled to resort, because nothing of the kind is to be found in the whole circle of our thirty-one confederate republics. Look, too, at

England. "There are now more than twelve hundred Antheums and Mechanics' Institutes in England, mostly with classes attached. The People's College at Sheffield, Professor Maurice's Working Men's College at London, are evidences that the operators are beginning to entertain a vaulting ambition for high intellectual attainments." Lord JOHN RUSSEL, and other distinguished Englishmen, to their credit be it said, possess not only the philanthropy but the wisdom to turn aside occasionally from the barren paths of political and literary ambition to earn a solid and enduring renown by leading forth the masses to enjoy the light of science. Would that our lamented WEBSTER, and CALHOUN, and CLAY had embraced a cause so worthy of their talents and position; for here, disinterestedness, independence and magnanimity would be justly appreciated, whilst in party warfare, these virtues lead only to political immolation.

An effort has been made in the State of Illinois to institute industrial universities for the people. The projector of this design, and its able and persevering advocate, is Professor J. B. TURNER, of Jacksonville. The first convention to promote the object of industrial education, was held by the farmers of Illinois at Granville, in Putnam county, in November, 1851, at which there was a large attendance from various parts of the State.

The able report of this convention, which was prepared by Professor TURNER, attracted much attention, and was published in the journals of the day, and printed and favorably commented upon in nearly all the leading agricultural and horticultural publications of the several States; especially of the North and West.

At the third convention, which was held at Chicago, November, 1852, "The Industrial League of the State of Illinois" was instituted, which has since been chartered by the Legislature.

The fourth convention was held in Springfield, in January, 1853, when a memorial was submitted to the Legislature of Illinois, in accordance with a resolution adopted for that purpose, the request of which memorial was promptly acceded to on the part of the General Assembly, and a resolution unanimously adopted, recommending "That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their best exertions to procure a law of Congress donating to each State in the Union an amount of public lands not less in value than five hundred thousand dollars, for the liberal endowment of a system of industrial universities, one in each State of the Union, to co-operate with each other for the more liberal and practical education of

Concluded on page 312.

Southern Field Pea.

A Field Pea of great economical value for feeding live stock, fattening swine, and improving the soil, is extensively grown in the Southern States, which is little known and less cultivated in the Northern and North-western parts of this extended republic. The plant belongs botanically to the same tribe of the northern field pea, (*Pisum sativum*), but not to the same genus. Darby, in his "Botany of the Southern States," Torrey, and authorities, make it a genus by itself, called *Vicia*, from *vincto* to bind. This genus has but two known species, *V. Caroliniana*, (Walter,) and *V. Acutifolia*, (Elliott,) of which there are forty or more varieties. The genus is thus described by Pro. Darby.

"*Calyx* tubular, five toothed, the two upper teeth the shortest. *Style* bent; outside the style near the summit, villous. *Legume* many seeded. *Leaves* pinnate. *Leaflets* in several pairs. *Petioles* extending into tendrils."

It is doubtless indigenous; and from the circumstance of its having been cultivated by the aborigines, it has long been known as the "Indian Pea," to distinguish it from the English garden pea, just as the indigenous maize has been denominated "Indian Corn," to distinguish it from the common cereals brought over from Europe by the first colonists. Under a wise system of farm economy this American *Legume* is second only in value to maize, from its natural adaptation to the soil and climate of the United States; and from the large amount of excellent forage and seeds that may, with little labor, be produced per acre.

Peas, beans and other pulse, belonging to this numerous family, have been cultivated for the consumption of man and his domesticated animals from the earliest ages of which history gives any account; and modern chemical analysis has shown that the seeds of these plants are richer than wheat or corn in flesh forming constituents. The stems and leaves of properly cured pea vines, whether belonging to the European or American genus, are three times as nutritious as the stems and leaves of wheat, rye, barley or oats, for feeding horses, cattle, or sheep. Indian corn contains more oil and starch than either peas or beans; and therefore where the production of fat is the principal object, as in the last feeding of fattening hogs, corn is a little better than peas. For all growing or working animals, for sheep and dairy husbandry, and for making rich manure, or turning in as a renovating crop, the *Vicia* has probably no equal among American agricultural plants. Like the long tap-root of the bean, of clover, lucerne, and sainfoin, that of the cow-pea (as the plant is

called in the South) descends, in a permeable soil, to a great depth. This enables the plant to draw its mineral food from below the surface soil after the latter has been impoverished by shallow plowing, washing, and excessive cropping, without the application of manure. "Old field pines," so abundant at the South, flourish by the aid of that organization which imbibes aliment equally from the deep subsoil and the atmosphere. The foliage of these trees recuperate exhausted land by covering its nakedness with vegetable mould, as they fall and decay from year to year. But neither the mould nor manure formed of pine leaves is half so valuable as mould or manure derived wholly from peas, or pea-vines. The latter are truly as much better than pine straw to feed the hungry earth and strengthen it, as they are to feed or nourish a hungry horse or cow. Every one knows that a bushel of peas and a bushel of sawdust are widely different in their value and alimentary properties; while but few know on what elements and their conditions this essential difference depends. Without going into a critical examination of this legume in reference to its relative nutritive value, or soluble elements available to form healthy blood in animals, suffice it to say there is no other plant which, taken as a whole, including seeds, stems, leaves, and roots, excels it.

Whether this southern plant will flourish as well in all the northern States as it does in its natural climate admits of doubt; although the writer believes that it will grow and ripen its fruit at a lower temperature than maize, which is also a southern plant. After wheat had been harvested in May, the land plowed, seeded, and a crop of indigenous grass grown and cut for hay in July, we have known the land to be plowed for the third crop, sown to cow-peas, and these come to maturity in time to seed the ground again with wheat in autumn, in the vicinity of Augusta, Ga. As the plant requires less heat than corn, it is possible that it may ripen in a climate as cool as that of England, where maize cannot be successfully cultivated. Experiment, however, can only settle the question of its geographical and climatic limits. It is already successfully cultivated as far north as New Jersey. Dr. Houghton of Philadelphia has written two articles on this subject recently, which appear in the January and February numbers of the *Pa. Farm Journal*, in which he states his experience and observations. He says—"The field pea, as I have stated in a previous article, delights in a sandy soil, and will grow where clover will not, affording a vast amount of foliage and shading the land completely, on even the poorest soil, without any other manure than a little charcoal, or well rotted

digestion, asthma, fever, consumption, moping, rheumatism, roup and vermin, may be traced to this. We have lost 50 chickens in a single storm where wind and rain has found its way to broods which we supposed were safe, and it was twenty years before we discovered a remedy. Now we rarely lose a chicken by disease. After taking your chickens or turkeys from the nest, *place them upon a tight scaffold in the barn*, and tie the mother there, where they will be kept from wind and rain, and if fed regularly upon a variety of food, they will remain healthy, and grow with wonderful rapidity. Keep them in this position until some time in May, and then if they are placed in coops, do not let them run at large during rainy weather, or while the grass is wet with dew in the morning. Observing these simple rules, there is no difficulty whatever in rearing young turkeys or chickens.

1. Protection from wet and cold.
2. Sufficient room or range, so that they may not be crowded.
3. A variety of wholesome food and water, with access to broken bones, oyster shells, gravel or old mortar.
4. Perfect cleanliness.

But turkeys must have a wide range; to confine them would be about as great a departure from nature as to expect the pear from the willow, or a fleece of fine wool upon the back of a calf. Feed the flock of turkeys habitually at night near the buildings, and thus induce them to come to roosts prepared for them in high places, to which they may have convenient access. Cared for in this way, the loss will be trifling, while the profit will usually be larger than from any other item on the farm where the same amount of capital is invested.

If fed liberally as autumn approaches, and continued until market time, there will be no need of shutting them up for fattening; they will not only be fat enough, but their flesh will be tender, juicy and sweet. These statements grow out of an actual experience of many years in rearing turkeys and fowls."

Horse Breeding.

It may be accepted as a rule, having few, if any exceptions, that it is most profitable to breed the best descriptions of horses. These can only be obtained from first class animals; and even the use of such will not be sufficient without the addition of the exercise of considerable skill and good judgment in the rearing and management generally.

Notwithstanding the unquestioned and manifest truth of this position, many act in contrary to it, and continue to breed from inferior animals. Many permit themselves to indulge in such a *short-sighted* economy and in such erroneous calculations as lead them to

think that they cannot afford for breeding purposes anything but old and broken down mares. And then the impression seems to be very general that perfection or good qualities in the sire will counteract and redeem any defect in the dam. That the sire does exercise a powerful influence on the general appearance of the progeny is not to be denied, this being most marked and manifest in the general outlines and in color. But the qualities of temper, disposition, endurance, courage and others of like nature, are generally more evidently derived from the dam. A gentleman with a quick eye for good points in a horse, has stated, that in repeated journeys through some of the Western States, he has seldom seen any superior, or really any good horses. These States, or those portions of them which are situated upon the main thoroughfares, seem to abound in all kinds of half-bred and defective horses, which would be of small value in the best Eastern markets.

To raise good horses, it has been often said, but needs to be said again,—we must begin with good and sound materials. Both horse and mare must be free from an constitutional or transmissible vice or defect, such as spavin, ring bone, contracted feet, heaves, or any affection of the breathing apparatus. If either parent is thus diseased or otherwise defective or unsound we cannot obtain a sound progeny. Occasionally an animal may be produced which may appear to be sound and healthy, and may continue to appear so until hardship, ill fare, or the attack of some disease, brings the defective constitution or hereditary taint sooner or later to the open light.

While so many errors continue to be committed in the breeding of horses,—while so few possessed of the requisite skill, tact, means and good judgment, are engaged in this business, it cannot be otherwise than that it might be carried on with *no small profit* by any possessed of the skill, tact, conveniences and judgment which are necessary for the highest success. A large number or a majority of purchasers have discrimination enough to discern between the offspring of parents of good constitution and the most valuable points, and the offspring of parents defective in these particulars. In addition to a proper selection or animals to breed from, there are other things essential to rearing horses of the most desirable qualities. Among these we would name as the most important, proper care and feeding during gestation, and also during the whole period of growth from infancy to maturity. The profits, as well as the satisfaction and pleasure, of the breeder will, as a general rule, correspond in some measure, with the amount of skill and good judgment exercised in these and other particulars of management.

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4. Perfect cleanliness.

But turkeys must have a wide range; to confine them would be about as great a departure from nature as to expect the pear from the willow, or a fleece of fine wool upon the back of a calf. Feed the flock of turkeys habitually at night near the buildings, and thus induce them to come to roosts prepared for them in high places, to which they may have convenient access. Cared for in this way, the loss will be trifling, while the profit will usually be larger than from any other item on the farm where the same amount of capital is invested.

If fed liberally as autumn approaches, and continued until market time, there will be no need of shutting them up for fattening; they will not only be fat enough, but their flesh will be tender, juicy and sweet. These statements grow out of an actual experience of many years in rearing turkeys and fowls."

Horse Breeding.

It may be accepted as a rule, having few, if any exceptions, that it is most profitable to breed the best descriptions of horses. These can only be obtained from first class animals; and even the use of such will not be sufficient without the addition of the exercise of considerable skill and good judgment in the rearing and management generally.

Notwithstanding the unquestioned and manifest truth of this position, many act in contrary to it, and continue to breed from inferior animals. Many permit themselves to indulge in such a *short-sighted* economy and in such erroneous calculations as lead them to

think that they cannot afford for breeding purposes anything but old and broken down mares. And then the impression seems to be very general that perfection or good qualities in the sire will counteract and redeem any defect in the dam. That the sire does exercise a powerful influence on the general appearance of the progeny is not to be denied, this being most marked and manifest in the general outlines and in color. But the qualities of temper, disposition, endurance, courage and others of like nature, are generally more evidently derived from the dam. A gentleman with a quick eye for good points in a horse, has stated, that in repeated journeys through some of the Western States, he has seldom seen any superior, or really any good horses. These States, or those portions of them which are situated upon the main thoroughfares, seem to abound in all kinds of half-bred and defective horses, which would be of small value in the best Eastern markets.

To raise good horses, it has been often said, but needs to be said again,—we must begin with good and sound materials. Both horse and mare must be free from an constitutional or transmissible vice or defect, such as spavin, ring bone, contracted feet, heaves, or any affection of the breathing apparatus. If either parent is thus diseased or otherwise defective or unsound we cannot obtain a sound progeny. Occasionally an animal may be produced which may appear to be sound and healthy, and may continue to appear so until hardship, ill fare, or the attack of some disease, brings the defective constitution or hereditary taint sooner or later to the open light.

While so many errors continue to be committed in the breeding of horses,—while so few possessed of the requisite skill, tact, means and good judgment, are engaged in this business, it cannot be otherwise than that it might be carried on with *no small profit* by any possessed of the skill, tact, conveniences and judgment which are necessary for the highest success. A large number or a majority of purchasers have discrimination enough to discern between the offspring of parents of good constitution and the most valuable points, and the offspring of parents defective in these particulars. In addition to a proper selection or animals to breed from, there are other things essential to rearing horses of the most desirable qualities. Among these we would name as the most important, proper care and feeding during gestation, and also during the whole period of growth from infancy to maturity. The profits, as well as the satisfaction and pleasure, of the breeder will, as a general rule, correspond in some measure, with the amount of skill and good judgment exercised in these and other particulars of management.

SPRINKLE CURR FOR FOUNDER.—As soon as you find your horse is foundered, bleed him in the neck in proportion to the greatness of the founder. In extreme cases you may bleed him as long as he can stand up. Then draw his head up, as is common in drenching, and with a spoon put back on his tongue strong salt, until you get him to swallow one pint. Be careful not to let him drink too much. Then annoint round the edges of his hoofs with spirits of turpentine, and your horse will be well in one hour. A founder pervades every part of the system of a horse. The steam arrests it from the blood, the salt arrests it from the stomach and bowels; and the spirit of turpentine arrests it from the feet and limbs. I once rode a hired horse ninety-nine miles in two days, returning him at night the second day; and his owner would not have known that he had been foundered if I had not told him; and his founder was one of the deepest kind. I once in a travel of seven hundred miles, foundered my horse three times, and I do not think my journey was retarded more than one day by the misfortune, having in all cases observed and practiced the above prescription. I have known a foundered horse turned in at night on green feed; in the morning he would be well, having been purged by the green feed. All founders must be attended to immediately.—S. W. Farmer.

The House Wren.

A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer*, in giving an interesting description of the habits of this bird, relates the following:

Several years since, a pair of wrens nested in the portico of a neighboring house; and much interest being excited in them, from their confidence, they were closely observed. All went on happily till the female commenced sitting, when the arch enemy of wrens, a cat, pulled down the nest, and killed her. The male immediately commenced rebuilding the nest, stopping occasionally to utter a mournful call for his lost mate. After about a week had elapsed, having finished the nest, all but the lining of feathers, he ceased his sorrowful note, and sitting on a tree close by, continued for several days to pour forth his loudest song, when, though he had not once left the neighborhood he was joined by a female. The new mate spent a day or two in examining the premises, and being apparently satisfied, she finished the nest by lining it with feathers, and as it was now protected by a wire grating, the pair raised their young in safety.

But last summer, I saw enacted a more curious scene, in bird life. In the same portico a pair of wrens had their nest, and in the wood-shed, at the back of the house, another couple had taken up their quarters. After

those in the portico had finished their nest, and several eggs had been laid, the male was killed. After some days, chirping anxiously, the disconsolate little widow went away, but in four or five days she returned, threw the eggs and lining out of the nest, and commenced twittering at a great rate; and shortly afterwards she was joined by a male bird, when she re-lined the nest, and again commenced laying. It was now discovered to our surprise, that the widowed wren's new husband was no other than the male of the pair whose nest was in the wood-shed; the female of which was at this time sitting. He did not, however, entirely desert his first mate; and when her young were hatched, helped take care of them, till the other brood made its appearance, to which he then carried all the food he collected. Still, he would occasionally be seen to fly from one nest to the other, but the deserted female very properly paid no attention to him, and, now, never welcomed him with the usual loving twitter.

There are other wrens in this country, with the same lively manner, and some which have finer songs, or more beautiful plumage; but all lack the pre-eminently social qualities that renders our homely little favorite so agreeable.

ROBERT W. KENNICOTT.

The Grove, Ill.

Vandalism.

"One night last week, ten fine Durham cattle, belonging to Col. Morris, of Morrisania, N. Y., were abstracted from his premises and driven away. Some clue was obtained, which led to the discovery of the carcasses of the cattle, dressed and exposed for sale in one of the New York markets. The hides were found in Newark, New Jersey, whither the rogues had taken the precaution to send them. Six of a gang, of which it was ascertained there were ten in all, were arrested, and the Colonel has them now safely lodged in jail in Westchester county, as he dared not trust to New York city justice, for their safe keeping and trial."

In view of the animals stolen being part of Col. Morris's imported stock for breeding purposes, the indignation that every one must feel at such vandalism, no one will be found fully able to express!—but will they take time to hit upon a proper degree of punishment for infliction upon the—we want terms in which to express our detestation! Our first proposal is, for the State in which the offense was committed, to construct an iron cage with as many cells as there are criminals, place it upon wheels, attach to it a pair of the finest horses in the country, and give it into the care of some very respectable person to attend it; and set it to travel the country, as a collec-

tion of "wild beasts of the most ferocious order," for exhibition at 12 1-2 cts. per head, *women and children half price*, and keep them going, until the value of the animals and 50 per cent. above, shall have been paid to the owners, after which the wretches may be relieved, by the infliction of confinement for life! A first thought, that may be improved upon, a friend just come into the office proposing, that after the expenses of ownership and travel have been defrayed, that they be given to the jailor as his perquisite, to be continued on exhibition, and be liable to be "stirred up with a long pole," as often as customers shall drop in to examine them; at the same time, that a certain portion of the receipts shall go to the support of their wives and families—is it possible that such wretches can have either?—after a regular bill of divorcement shall have been granted to their wives by the law-courts. —*Boston Cultivator.*

Fine Blooded Stock.

We noticed, yesterday, passing through this city, a lot of very fine blooded sheep, belonging, as we afterwards learned, to Mr. H. D. BROWN, of Danville, Montgomery county, in this State. Mr. Brown is devoting himself to the establishment of a stock raising farm, for which his section of the State is remarkably well adapted. With this object in view he is now returning from a visit to the East, where he has purchased, aside from the sheep in question several varieties of the imported stocks of cattle and a splendid horse, intended for the introduction of a larger and better made horse for farming purposes; a deficiency which is admitted to exist in that portion of the State. These animals, in consequence of the heat of the weather, and their fat condition, he was afraid to bring on board a steamboat at the present time, but has arranged to do so next fall.

The sheep will be regarded as curiosities in his section, and almost anywhere else. One of them, a French buck, raised by MERRILL BINGHAM, of Vermont, and of the Tainter importation, sheared sixteen pounds when ten months old—has taken two premiums, and cost Mr. Brown, two hundred and fifty dollars. This may seem to the uninitiated a very high price, but when the beautiful texture of the fleece is considered, and that it will hereafter be greatly increased, the surprise ought not to be so great. He has also five Spanish ewes from the flock of Murdock, in Vermont; two from Rockwell in Vermont; eight selected from the flock of S. ARNOLD, former Cashier of Seneca County Bank, Ohio, raised from sheep selected from MURDOCK & ELTHORP's flock, and sired by a buck from E. HAMMOND's flock. Five raised by D. W. EASTMAN, Seneca County,

Ohio—of Spanish descent, by his stock buck Blackhawk—the latter raised by ROBINSON, of Vermont, and his sire was sold several years ago for \$500, by BINGHAM of Vermont. Five other animals, half Spanish and half French, raised by JERRY BINGHAM. One Black hawk buck, of Spanish descent, and another of Spanish descent, raised by ARTHUR, of Vermont. The ewes belonging to this flock were purchased at \$25 a head and are regarded as of very fine quality. Altogether, we apprehend such a flock of fine blooded animals has never been brought to this State, and we hope Mr. Brown may reap a rich reward from his enterprise. —*Republican.*

FATTENING SPRING PIGS FOR PORK.—For twelve years I have fattened spring pigs. The 2d of December last I had a litter of pigs come, one-half Berkshire and Leicester, kept the same in a common pen, and, as soon as they would eat, fed them Indian meal gruel, cooked, in proportions as follows: For every 32 gallons of water, when near boiling heat, I stirred in 20 lbs. of Indian meal, ground fine; feed the pigs three times a day what they would eat. After three and a half months old, they gained one pound per day—gave them sulphur once a week, and changed their food to dry meal for three or four feedings. The middle of May I sold three of the same to butchers, at \$6 per hundred dressed. Averaging the whole at the price of those sold, the corn feed would pay 10s. per bushel for what they had eaten. Have fed the rest on boiled corn exclusively up to this time. Intend to feed them up to January next, and then will give you the result of the whole.

For those that have not corn, falling apples, pumpkins, or small potatoes, boiled with shorts stirred in, will answer a good purpose to make pigs grow. They should be confined in a close pen with a small yard back, and kept clean. —*Marcus Persons, in Rural New Yorker.*

CABBAGES FOR COWS.—The editor of the *Agricultural Gazette* (Eng.) estimates one acre of cabbages to be worth three acres of turnips for cows. He recommends sowing seeds in beds, either in autumn or spring, and transplanting toward the end of May, at the rate of 8000 plants to the acre. One pound of seed will produce about 2400 plants. —*Country Gentleman.*

FOWLS.—The Ohio Farmer says, as the manure of the hen house is the best for onions, so onions, chopped fine and mixed with Indian meal, is occasionally the best food for chickens. It should be given once or twice a week, and will prevent gapes and all kinds of inflammation of the throat and eyes.

A Farmer's Garden.

There has been a great change within a few years among our farmers in regard to the cultivation of a kitchen garden; but there is abundant room yet left for improvement, and we would urge upon the attention of all, the value and necessity of an ample and seasonable supply of garden vegetables. It speaks very poorly for the farmer's economy, even though his field be tolerably well tilled, to see the garden fence broken down and the plot overgrown with grass and weeds. No one can estimate until he has tried it, the value of a small but well cultivated garden. The constant rotation of fresh and delicious vegetables it affords for the table, and the amount it saves of the more substantial provisions, to say nothing of the higher considerations of comfort and health are among its numerous advantages.

It has usually been the case, and the same state of things perhaps exists to-day, that the care bestowed upon the garden is in inverse ratio to the size of the occupant's premises and his pecuniary ability. If a man owns but half an acre of ground or less, he makes it tell essentially in the way of vegetables and fruits; while he who boasts the possession of a hundred or more acres, plows and sows broad fields and not unfrequently lets the garden run to waste. His wife, through all the early season is limited in range of edibles to the pork barrel, the flour barrel, and the potato bin, on which enormous drafts are made to satisfy the cravings of half a dozen hungry field hands.

Such things as pie plant, lettuce, and asparagus are only read about, not seen; while her humble neighbor of the half acre has an abundant supply of all these things. In midsummer the farmer's women folks make inroads into the fields for peas and green corn, while the other has far better articles and a greater variety immediately at hand.

The range of kitchen vegetables, an abundance of which can be raised upon a half acre, or even less, is far too large to be enumerated here; but the seed store will furnish the seed, and a little labor with the hoe and rake, after a thorough plowing and manuring will fit the ground for its reception. The various kinds of roots, peas, beans, and corn, cucumbers, cabbages; and tomatoes, and dozens of other things of similar character, will pay for cultivation in dollars, for every expenditure in dimes. But the mere question of dollars and cents is unworthy of account, when compared with the other advantages to be derived from the good garden. The innocent indulgence of the appetite, the promotion of health and strength, the cultivation of taste for the ornamental, which even the laying out

of a vegetable garden will not fail to promote, are some of these higher advantages.

The question may very reasonably be asked, why it happens that the garden of the farmer is so frequently neglected, while the plot of the poor mechanic or the limited homestead of the tradesman is made to yield so abundantly? The reason, is undoubtedly this.—With the former, the garden is merely a secondary consideration, and perhaps not so much as that; while with the latter, it is his profit and delight. Every inch of land is brought into requisition, and he watches every tiny seed as it vegetates and develops itself into a broad-leaved plant. If he laments at all, it is over the narrow bounds that hedge in his out-door labors, and the comforts of his family. The garden of the farmer is sowed and planted at odd spells, too late or too early, when it will not interfere with field labors. It is hoed and weeded (if hoed and weeded at all) at times when it is *too stormy to work out doors*, or it is set as a task anterior to a holiday, and consequently wretchedly done.

A greater reform than has yet taken place in the farming community is needed, and must be effected. Agricultural papers have done much to bring about such a reform, but their mission in this field is not yet ended. We will stake our reputation, on this, that any industrious intelligent farmer, who has never taken the pains to cultivate an excellent kitchen garden, will never be without one after he has tried the experiment for a single season.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Books for the Garden and Orchard.

Next to the blessedness of having a bit of earth to call your own, is that of having a practical treatise to tell you how to cultivate and improve it. A man who would go miles to see a gardener or fruit grower, to learn the best method of growing a plant or tree; would not perhaps open a book containing the same information more fully and clearly stated. We are glad to see the multiplication of books upon rural affairs, and we, who were stunted in our boy-hood to the very brief agricultural hints found in the Farmers' Almanac, really envy the young farmers of this generation, who have handsome duodecimos, and octavos even, illumined with splendid drawings of trees, fruits and flowers for their edification. If we ever wish to be young again, it is to improve the comparative leisure of youth in gaining that knowledge of the garden, the orchard and the farm, which the press is continually sending out upon the world. Our best gardeners and fruit growers are now writers for the public, embodying their experience of long years, in agricultural journals and text books, so that a novice in the manipulation of the

soil, if he will avail himself of their teachings, may become skilled in all the mysteries of cultivation.

A friend of ours, who says he takes agricultural papers and buys books to save postage has the right view of the subject. You will really gain more practical knowledge of cultivation from almost any of the volumes issued from the agricultural press, or from a years' file of a good agricultural Journal, than you could gain from ten times the cost expended in correspondence with the best farmers and fruit growers in the country; saying nothing of your own time spent in the effort.

The time of seed-sowing in the garden has come, and now is the time to take counsel, and lay out your plans for the season.—*American Agriculturist*.

THE WEEVIL.—We were yesterday shown by Mr. James Otis, Berlin, Erie county, several heads of white, or bald wheat, upon which the weevil had commenced his ravages. Mr. Otis, a practical farmer has paid minute attention to the movements of this animal, whose ravages are so much feared and has endeavored to ascertain what it is, and in what manner it affects the wheat. The weevil is a winged insect similar in size to a small musquito, its body being long in proportion, and terminating in a "feeler." It lights upon the base of the head of the wheat in the process of formation; and crawling up inserts its body backwards and downwards between the forming kernel and the outside covering, depositing upon the kernel its "nit," as it is called, a very small, yellow, and almost shapeless mass, and which absorbs the nourishment properly belonging to the kernel itself.

We examined with a microscope this young weevil in various stages of development, and found that as this "nit" grows, it becomes proportionately long with pointed ends, and moves about within a short compass, though no legs, nor appearance of head or tail are discernable, it gradually exhibits the form of a beetle shaped young insect with wings and six legs; without however changing color. To this last described stage the animal has how progressed. Mr. Otis informs us that the fly, when seeking to deposit its eggs, crawls slowly up one row of the kernels, and in case it finds no opening in which to insinuate itself, commences again at the base of another row and proceeds in like manner.

The white wheat, so far that we can learn, seems to be the only kind affected, the reasons for which are, undoubtedly, these: the kernels form comparatively late, are unprotected by a "beard," and are separated from each other, and from their covering, by greater spaces than any other. The specimens of Mediter-

anean shown us, growing in the same section with the above mentioned white, were not affected; the kernels were nearly, if not completely formed, while that of the white had not reached more than one-half its full size.

Mr. Otis says that the wheat crop in Erie county will be "fair," though not so much winter wheat was sown as usual.—*Cleveland Herald*.

Green Beans or Snaps.

Green beans or snaps, green peas and roasting ears may be had every day in winter at a very trifling amount of trouble. They are all preserved by being packed away in salt. The salt is removed before cooking by steeping in warm water. We had on the table a fine dish of snaps on the 25th of December, (Christmas day,) and have been using them since as often as desired.

Mode of preserving Beans.—Take any tight vessel, jar or barrel, and lay down a layer of beans and then cover lightly with salt, another layer of beans and then salt, and so on until vessel is full. Green peas are preserved in the same manner.

To Preserve Corn.—First shave the corn from the cob with a sharp knife, and then pack in a close vessel corn and salt in alternate layers, until the vessel is full, soak well in warm water before cooking, and it is just as good as it is in summer. Try it all of you who are fond of good eating.—A. C. STEVENSON, in *Tip Farmer*.

GREAT SALE OF SHOT-HORNS IN ENGLAND.—At Hendon, England, on the 24th of April, a sale of 101 cattle, consisting of 77 cows and heifers and 24 bulls, took place, at prices ranging from 15 to 500 guineas each. Some of the English journals attribute the high price to American bidders, who they say are getting away their best cattle. They advance the opinion that our importing associations, by which the expense is so divided, can afford to pay higher prices than individual buyers in their own country.

WHITEWASH.—Poor whitewash is a serious injury to a wall or ceiling, and when once on it is difficult to get it off or properly cover it and produce a clear white appearance. This is the season for cleaning up, and we will give the recipe for a first rate wash. Quick lime, slacked by boiling water, stirring it until so slacked. Then dissolve in water white vitriol, (sulphate of zinc,) which you get at the druggists, at the rate of two pounds of zinc to a half barrel of whitewash, making it about the consistency of rich milk. This sulphate of zinc will cause the wash to harden; and to prevent the lime from rubbing off, a pound of fine salt should be thrown into it.

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our industrial classes and their teachers—a liberal and varied education, adapted to the manifold wants of a practical and enterprising people, such provision being in manifest concurrence with the popular will, and demanding the united efforts of our national strength." Copies of these proceedings were forwarded by the Governor to the Executive and Legislature of each State in the Union, inviting their co-operation.

The need and importance of this effort to educate the people, is universally felt. It has been warmly and generally recommended by the press, by the Executive and Legislatures of different States, and by distinguished individuals. It only remains that these worthy efforts should be seconded, and the work consummated by the people themselves.

An imposing convention was held in the city of Albany, in January, 1853, on the subject of a practical national system of education. On this occasion, a committee of twenty-one was appointed to report a plan. Among these appear the names of the venerable President WAYLAND, of Brown University; Bishop PORRIS, of Pennsylvania, WASHINGTON LIVING, Governor HUNT and Senator DIX of New York, President HITCHCOCK of Amherst College, Professor WEBSTER, HENRY, BACHE, MITCHELL of Cincinnati, PIERCE of Cambridge.

Rev. Dr. WYKOFF said, "The enterprise was one for the masses. It would open the path of knowledge for all the youth in the land, and from the common school to the highest university, our educational institutions should be thrown open to all. The proper spirit for the work was already abroad."

On republishing the plan of Professor TURNER, the editor of the New York *Tribune* remarks: "The great idea of a higher or thorough education for the sons and daughters of farmers, mechanics, and laborers, is everywhere forcing itself on the public attention. Our race needs the best instruction and discipline to qualify them for working, as well as for thinking and talking."

President HITCHCOCK, of Amherst College, speaks with enthusiasm of three hundred and fifty-two schools in Europe, mostly of recent origin. He said he was amazed at the rapid progress made within a few years, in those schools for farmers. He did not believe there was a class of students of any kind in our country, who would be able to answer one-tenth of the questions which those young men answered promptly.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, after a thorough discussion of the subject, by eminent practical and scientific men, who were present, it was

Resolved, That a thorough and systematic

course of education, is as necessary to prepare the cultivator of the soil for pre-eminence in his calling, as to secure excellence in any science or art; that for want of such an education millions of dollars, and a vast amount of time and energy, are annually lost to the commonwealth, and that the yeomanry have a right to claim from the Government the same fostering care which is extended to other great interests of the community.

How can our farmers reconcile their own minds and consciences to the fact, that whilst institutions of this admirable character are in full operation in Europe, and exercising a most beneficial influence upon the public mind, *nothing is done here!* The agricultural seminaries there, are a boon granted to the people, who have no voice in the Government. Here, where the people govern, the farmers are the more numerous, and the ruling class, and may command such schools. If, then, we and our children remain comparatively degraded and ignorant for the want of these institutions, how can we reconcile the neglect to our duty as American citizens? In France, alone, there are seventy-five of these institutions, all of which exert a powerful and salutary influence. To one of these the Government made an appropriation in 1849 of half a million of dollars. Another has already graduated six hundred well educated farmers who immediately found honorable and lucrative situations. Despotism Russia has sixty-eight of these schools, some of which are of a high order. "Cannot each of our confederated Republics afford one?"

The Hon. M. B. WILDER estimates the loss of the single State of Massachusetts, in the product of her grains, for want of the knowledge and skill which such institutions would give, at two millions of dollars annually. Sound reflection may show us that this calculation is within the truth. If so, what enterprise can be more important to the nation than the early establishment of institutions that will contribute more to its solid wealth in one year, than might be derived from the gold of California, in ten; whilst securing a treasure more important and less perishable than gold, by moral and intellectual culture. Shall we not then take early and effectual measures to educate the Farmer? We would rather say, "Farmers, will you not educate yourselves?" For you are the controlling power in the State, and may command that this desirable object shall be thoroughly accomplished.

In Illinois, much is already due to Prof. TURNER, and the many able and disinterested men who have brought this subject of educating the Farmers, Mechanics and Merchants, before the people. They will persevere, but they ask the aid and co-operation of all good men who are friends to the cause. And may not the

great importance of this subject be urged upon public attention with more confidence, no less than heartiness and good will when it is considered that the institutions proposed will conflict in no possible manner with the existing literary institutions of the country. So far from it, they will cultivate a taste for letters among the mass of the people, and a more general desire for ripe scholarship.

In this connection it may be interesting to state, that the increased attention recently given to County and State Societies, has already produced an excellent influence, and induced great improvements in agriculture. The States of Missouri and Illinois, have both passed acts encouraging the formation of county agricultural societies during their recent sessions. It is an assurance that they will hereafter do more and better. And here, it is just to remark, that the efforts of the same enlightened men who are aiming to establish suitable schools for the scientific instruction of the farmer, have also been foremost and most efficient in instituting State and county societies. Indeed, how could it be otherwise?

Agricultural societies, with their admirable exhibitions and fairs, are the natural auxiliaries—they are indeed the practical exercises of a good scientific education. They must advance in interest and importance, as industrial schools are established and multiplied.

GREENVILLE, ILL.

W.

From the Boston Cultivator.

The Curculio.

Inquiries are constantly made for a remedy against the curculio. We know of nothing better than jarring the trees and catching the insects on cloths spread underneath. This, if followed up every day or two from the time the fruit is set till it is two-thirds grown, will insure a crop. A mallet with India rubber or several thicknesses of cloth fastened on it may be used for jarring the tree, giving the limbs a smart blow. Morning is the best time for the work—the insect being then less active—though it is better to do it in the evening than in the middle of the day.

We have heard of partial success in saving plums from the ravages of this insect by fumigation. Mr. C. H. Hall of Blue Rock, Ohio, a successful cultivator of fruit, with whom we were acquainted several years ago, practiced this method, which he has lately described in the *Ohio Farmer*, as follows:

"I melted brimstone, and prepared matches, by taking old woolen rags, about three inches square and dipped them into the melted brimstone, keeping the pan containing it setting on a warm stove. By this means, I prepared matches enough to last me several weeks. When the plums were about the size of a com-

mon pea, I commenced smoking, by using a pole long enough to reach the top of the trees, split the small end, stuck my match in it, set fire to it, and held it so that the fumes of the sulphur would fly all through the top of the tree. This I did from two to three evenings each week, for several weeks, or through the season of the curculio's work, and the result was, that I had plums every year."

Do Spare the Birds.

"The time of the singing of birds is come!"

Here! you great lot of a fellow—what are you about there, in that man's orchard, skulking along under the fences, with a gun in your hand! "*Goin' to shute the birds,*" did you say? You lazy loafing scapegrace—go home and go to work at something that will keep you out of the devil's workshop, (idleness) and that will be of some service to the family that feeds you. Ask your father if he cannot find something useful to do—if not ask him to get you a chance to learn an honest trade; ask your poor mother, who cooks your food, mends and washes your cloths, makes your bed and tolerates your lazy person in the house, if she would not like to have some chips picked up, some cord-wood cut, come oven-wood split and brought in, or the door-yards raked over, or some flower-beds in the garden made. Tax your ingenuity, if you have any, to find something to do in or around the house rather than to move your slab-sided person about the highways, or to be loafing amongst the fields and orchards with gun and ammunition, in pursuit of the pretty orioles, the red wings, the yellow-hammers, and the sweet singing robins and peace-birds. Can a boy who thinks anything of himself descend to a lower calling than to be thus engaged in taking the lives of those innocent and beautiful tenants of the field and grove—lives, which, when he has taken them, are no possible worth or utility to himself or anybody else? It is cowardly; it is dastardly. There is a law against this wanton destruction of these beautiful birds, which are so useful to man. It is severe, and ought to be enforced.—*Drew's Rural.*

Wheat kept in old salt barrels will never be destroyed by the weevil.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

WEDGE HOUSE, Saturday June 30.

There has been no change in the Cattle market for the past week, although several lots were shipped, it had no effect on the market. Cattle keep coming in faster than they sell, and there are at the end of this week about 500 head left unsold.

HOGS—Market active, and both good butcher and shipping hogs are in demand.

SHEEP—Market dull and declining. We quote, choice cattle at from \$4 to \$4 1/2 net; common 2 to 2 1/2 gross; Cocker Texas, \$10 to \$20 per head; Mutt Cows, \$15 to \$25.

HOGS—Good butcher's 6 1/2 net; shipping, 5 net.

SHEEP—At from \$1 to \$2 50 per head.

The Family Circle.

Conducted by
Mrs. MARY ABBOTT.

☞ We copy below a few paragraphs from a letter from a friend with whom we feel great sympathy, as her views of the aim and end of life are so much like our own. Although the letter was written for our own personal perusal, yet we believe our friend will pardon us for taking a small portion of her kind letter for our FAMILY CIRCLE. Mrs. B. is a domestic lady and loves home and maternal duties, and is interested in whatever will benefit the domestic circle. She is trying to do her duty in life that she may give her account with joy, and to leave behind her, children who will be qualified to "act well their part," and who will "rise up and call her blessed."

We thank our kind friend for her cordial invitation to visit her at her vine and flower-clad home, away from this noisy and busy city, but duty bids us stand by our post at present. But we hope we shall be able to visit her before the summer closes with those whom we cannot leave, to refresh ourselves for a day or two, and behold the beauties of nature with which her lovely home is surrounded:

[Correspondence.]

BUNSWICK, May 30, 1855.

DEAR MRS. ABBOTT.—We have just finished reading the last page of the Home Circle. How cheering to one confined at home like myself are your kind encouraging words. "Home Happiness and Heaven" is a sweet piece. How long and faithfully have I labored to try and make the home that my husband has provided for me and my children lovely and attractive; and that kind hand that has led me through dangers seen and unseen has blessed my labors; and now we are enjoying the fruits and flowers of our planting a few years ago. And now we are striving with our two little girls and two boys, to raise them for a nobler motive than to shine as butterflies for a few short days, and then go down unno-

ticed by the gay throng of flatterers that they may attract. Can you not come and bring your little girls and spend a week or two with me in my cottage home, away from the noise and bustle of your proud city home? If you will I will try to afford you all the repose and recreation that would add to your health and enjoyment.

Thanks to you, for your undeserved notice of me. If I meet with any one going down I will send you a pretty bouquet of flowers, and something else that you will prize. The bottle of berries I sent you were not preserved; but simply stewed, put in a dry bottle, corked slightly, set in a kettle of cold water with several other bottles, and the water heated as for washing until it began to boil, by that time the berries were cooked enough; take the bottles, cut off the cork even with the bottle; have ready some bees wax and sealing wax, mixed half of each and melted; as soon as you take them out of the water seal them up before they get cold, and set them in a cool dry place, and I have kept them over a year.

Write me a long letter in answer. My Adelia reads your pieces with the deepest interest, and little John sits by me and listens to hear me read with the greatest delight. Your piece of "Charlie and the Dog" delighted him much. He said when I had finished, "Ma, is that all?" My kindest regard to your kind husband and little ones, and accept for yourself the warm feelings of regard of one who prizes your moral and intellectual worth. M. M. B.

☞ Our friendly readers will excuse us for making a few extracts from a letter written by a very dear friend of ours, Miss Martha Jewett. Many of our readers remember Capt. Jewett, the brother of our friend. We ask to be excused because we do not like to occupy so much room about our personal friends, and because we had already given a notice of our pastor before we received her letter. We copy a few lines of her long and interesting letter to show that "truly a great man has fallen in Israel."

Our friend Martha will furnish us with pieces from time to time for our department, which we know will be interesting to our readers, as she has a warm and sensitive heart, and loves home, like ourself, and she is indeed "kind to the loved ones at home:"

[Correspondence.]

MIDDLEBURY, (Vt.) May 9, 1855.

MY DEAR FRIEND.—You may be assured your true friend Martha was happy to hear from you, and to receive an answer to my last (though very unexpectedly through the columns of the FAMILY CIRCLE.) As you have given so cordial an invitation to contribute occasionally for that department, perhaps yourself and readers will be interested in perusing an extract from my journal, of my last call upon both yours and my beloved pastor of former years—I refer to Rev. Thomas Abbott Merrill.

April 30th.—Last Tuesday called upon our pastor. Found him supported with pillows; he had lost much flesh, but had the same pleasant expression of countenance. His voice was natural, and he remarked that his lungs were yet strong when he did not converse so much as to cause the water to rise upon them. He was in a calm, tranquil state of mind, and remarked that he was evidently passing to the grave, but thus far the Savior had made the passage pleasant, also that praise was part of the employment of heaven, and he felt that immediately on entering heaven he could join in an anthem of praise. He regretted that he had not done more for his Savior, and said that it was all of grace that his salvation was made perfect.

In imagination turn your eyes to Dartmouth College! At a late hour, two lights, like stars, are seen glimmering in the distance. One is from the room of Rev. T. A. Merrill, the other from that of his intimate friend and class-mate, Daniel Webster. At this time he was a most laborious, elegant and accomplished scholar, and a competitor with Mr. Merrill for the "valedictory" of his class, which was conferred upon Mr. Merrill!

"Though at this time possessing all the

advantages of this institution of learning, yet Mr. Merrill felt that the facilities for improving in elocution were not perfected then as now." This disadvantage in his early education led Mr. Merrill to bestow the munificent fund of \$1500 to the College in this village, the annual interest of which was to be distributed in prizes to the Freshman and Sophomore classes."

MELROSE.

We had a very pleasant visit to Melrose a few days ago. Mr. Haven very kindly gave us an invitation to visit him and his family at his mountain home, which is situated about six miles from the Pacific Railroad and thirty miles from St. Louis.—Melrose is very healthfully located upon very high land, so that the proprietor calls it the "Highlands of Melrose." It must be healthy there, for the land is high and there is always a refreshing breeze wafted from thousands of fragrant flowers, which makes the air delicious and invigorating to the invalid. The prospect was delightful on all sides, it is picturesque and enchantingly romantic. We think it would be a pleasant place to retire to from the noise and heat of the city, and enjoy the delights of rural life during the summer months.—They are building a good house for a Seminary, which they will open very soon, as the house is nearly completed, so that those who retire there to enjoy the cool and refreshing breezes of these highlands can have a good opportunity to send their children to school. Mr. H. has made very many beautiful improvements, so that his place looks truly lovely. He has a pretty and convenient Swiss cottage which looks very inviting, surrounded by the majestic forest trees and the beautiful flowers and shrubbery. We have not room nor time to give a description of the improvements Mr. H. has made, nor could we give such a description as it deserves. Those who wish to know what Melrose is must visit there themselves. We spent two days there very pleasantly, and were kindly entertained by Mr. Haven and his pleasant

family. We hope we shall have an opportunity to spend some time there again soon.

Brotherly Love.

While we were visiting at a large farm not far from St. Louis, we heard a gentleman who is engaged in extensive business with his brothers say they had never charged each other with a penny in their lives. We were pleased with the thought. These gentlemen who have families and interests of their own, with some of their children grown and married, to see these gentlemen who have passed the meridian of life, entertaining such young and warm affections for each other, was truly gratifying!

We do like to see an affection like this, wherever it exists. It is pleasant to witness it. "Tis like the dew on Hermon," or like the oil on Aaron's head. It sheds its influence on all around, and every one is happier for it. Its influence is felt beyond the bounds of family connection. This is so unlike what we have often seen that we made a little note of it, hoping that its good example might be of some benefit to our readers. We have often seen brothers and sisters who have families of their own more exacting to each other than to strangers. We know of a case the reverse of this and we will note it here that we may consider and be profited by the contrast.

A few years ago a gentleman was in ill health, and his physician advised him to go among his kindred and rest from his business for a while. He went among his own and his own received him not. Neither brother nor sister afforded him aid. His wife's brothers were not any better. They seemed to be afraid that he would get a dollar out of their pockets, and some of them shunned him altogether, although he had previously entertained some of them for weeks—yes, this poor, honest, sick brother was treated as poor relations generally are, with more coldness than strangers. Had they treated him as a brother ought to have been treated, it would have

been casting their bread upon the waters, as he could and would have returned the benefit with "good measure, pressed down and running over." The Bible command is "Let brotherly love continue," and "hide not yourself from your own flesh."

Closing up the Ledger.

BY OXFORD.

Close up the Ledger, Time!
Slowly and sadly, but let it be,
Mournfully passeth by the year;
What are the records for you and me
Left by the fallinger here?—
What for passion and what for love!
What for avarice and crime?
What for hope and the Heaven above?
What of the Ledger, Time?

Close up the Ledger, Time!
Many a name for good, or ill,
Fills to the margin your blotted scroll—
Many a high and haughty will,
Many a low but humble soul;
Yet one page to each is given,
Marking the changing path we situate,
Holding the balance of Hell or Heaven—
What of the Ledger, Time?

Close up the Ledger, Time!
Say, are we creditors for aught?
Have we a store of noble deeds,
Springing from high and generous thought,
Such as our fellow brother needs?
Have we laid up for coming years
Words to weave in funeral rhyme,
Names that will call up grateful tears?
What of the Ledger, Time?

Close up the Ledger, Time!
Say what promises hope has drawn—
Say what drafts stern truth has paid;
Say what bankrupt hopes have gone
In the grave with memory laid;
Say if the heart has kept its own,
Grasping beauty with lure and time,
Say what fabrics are o'erthrown—
What of the Ledger, Time?

Close up the Ledger, Time!
Hark, the knell of the year gone by!
Have I run out my golden sand?
Where shall I be when the next shall die?
Where shall the soul within me stand?
Naught beyond may the ledger tell,
Naught be known but in guilt and crime;
Listen! I hear the New Year's bell!
Shut up the Ledger, Time!

Children's Faith.

A Boy, six years old, having heard a clergyman preach on the ministry of angels, said to the nurse as he went to bed, "I am not afraid to go to bed now (though before he was very timid), for the minister said that angels watched over us while we sleep."

A father said to his son, who was at a Sunday School, and had attended to what he heard there, "Carry this parcel to such a place."

"It is the Sabbath," replied the boy.
"Put it in your pocket," said the father.
"God can see in my pocket," answered the child.

A little girl, when dying, was asked where she was going?

"To heaven," said the child.

"And what makes you wish to be there?" asked one.

"Because Christ is there."

"But what," said a friend, "if Christ should leave heaven?"

"Then," said the child, "I will go with him."

Daily Duties.

Our daily paths with thorns or flowers,
We can at will bestow them;
What bills would gild the passing hours,
If we but rightly knew them.
The way of life is rough at best,
But briars yield the roses,
So that which leads to joy and rest,
The hardest path discloses.

The woods that oft we cast away,
Their simple beauty scorning,
Would form a wreath of purest ray,
So in our daily paths, 'twere well
To call each gift a treasure,
However slight, where love can dwell
With life renewing pleasure!

"ALWAYS A GOOD BOY."—When Washington arrived at Fredericksburg, Virginia, where his mother resided, on his return from Yorktown, in October, 1781, the people came in crowds to greet him; but his mother, though proud of her son, was unmoved by the honors paid to him. When the triumphal procession entered the town, she was preparing yarn for the weaver of cloth for her servants, and was thus occupied when her honored son entered the house.

"I am glad to see you, George; you have altered considerably," were her first words, and during the whole interview not a word was said by either of his glorious achievements. The next day she was visited by Lafayette, who spoke to her in glowing language of the greatness of her son. Her simple and memorable reply was, "I am not surprised, for George was always a good boy."

A Lovely Incident.

What parent on reading the annexed extract, can fail to reflect on the lesson it suggests; How important that, when the parent has departed, the example left behind may be such as the child can be thankful for. To watch for and train the budding thoughts of an artless child, is one of the noblest offices that father can fill. Truly hath it been said that "out of the mouth of babes and sucklings" strength hath been ordained. What could give greater strength to that widowed heart than such a scene with her little daughter:

"She knelt at the accustomed hour, to thank God for the mercies of the day, and pray for care through the coming night; and

then as usual came the earnest "God bless dear mother and"—but the prayer was still-
ed, the little hands unclasped, and a look of agony and wonder met the mother's eye, as words of hopeless sorrow burst from the lips of the kneeling child: "I cannot pray for father any more!" Since her little lips had been able to form the dear name, she had prayed for a blessing upon it; it had followed close after mother's name, for he had said that must come first; and now to say the familiar prayer, and leave her father out! No wonder that the new thought seemed too much for the childish mind to receive.

I waited for some moments, that she might conquer her emotion, and then urged her to go on. Her pleading eyes met mine, and with a voice that faltered too much almost for utterance, she said:

"O, mother I cannot leave him all out; let me say, thank God that I had a dear father once so I can still go on and keep him in my prayers." And so she always does, and my stricken heart learned a lesson from the loving ingenuity of my child. Remember to thank God for mercies past as well as to ask for blessings for the future."

Model Husbands.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

"Another day's work done, thank fortune!" said Mr. Peterkin, throwing himself, with an air of careless satisfaction, in a reclining attitude on a bench. "I'm not a lazy man but I do feel glad, these hot June days, when the sun goes down."

A few minutes only did Mr. Peterkin remain in this position. Rising up quickly, as a thought crossed his mind, he added—

"Woman's work, it is truly said, is never done. I must hurry off home, and see how poor Mary is getting along. She did not seem at all well when I left her at dinner time."

"You don't expect to cook your supper, do you?" remarked an employer in the establishment where Mr. Peterkin was engaged, speaking with a slightly sneering expression.

"If cook should happen to be out, and wifey sick," was the smiling answer, "the kettle would not fail to reach the boiling point through my neglect or indifference. That's a fact."

"Every man to his taste," said the other. "But I'm no Betty. I suppose you could dress the baby on a pinch?"

"Haven't tried it yet; but we are never too old to learn, you know. Shouldn't object to an experiment in that line—for I love babies—if there was no woman's gentler and more skillful hand ready to do the work," cheerfully returned Peterkin.

The other tossed his head in a half contempt-

tauous manner, replying that his babies would go a long time without washing and dressing if they waited for him to do it. For his part, he despised woman's work.

"You don't despise woman also, I hope?" said Peterkin, looking so steadily and meaningly at his companion that he appeared slightly confused.

"They are well enough in their place, and exceedingly useful," was answered in a tone of affected gayety. Then he added, more seriously, as if to do away with any unfavorable impression in regard to his home relations that his word and manner might have created, "I leave to my wife the entire management of the kitchen and nursery, and never trespass an inch on her prerogative. It's as much as I can do to maintain the household. Her department is entirely distinct from mine. She never interferes with me, and I award her a like immunity."

"How is it if a meal is late or badly cooked?" asked Peterkin.

"I grumble, of course—perhaps scold," said the other. "If I find the money to buy good food, and it is spoiled in cooking, I think I've a right to grumble. I should like to know what you do under similar circumstances?"

"I haven't the trial often," returned Peterkin.

"You're lucky then, that's all I have to say. I suppose you raise such a storm when there is any defect, that your wife receives a lesson which she does not care often to have repeated. I think I shall try your remedy."

"It might be better perhaps, if you would," said Peterkin, smiling.

"Well, what is your remedy, precisely?—What do you say, and how do you say it?"

"When a meal is late, or badly cooked, you mean?"

"Yes."

"I take several things for granted, in the outset," answered Peterkin.

"What are they?"

"In the first place, I give my wife credit for good intentions. I know she meant to have all right. This, of course, stifles impatience and a disposition to complain. In the second place, I know that she is sufficiently annoyed by the defect. To increase this annoyance by fault-finding or fretfulness, would not only be selfish and cruel on my part, but create a state of feeling in my wife that must increase her unhappiness, and cloud the whole atmosphere of home."

"And you say nothing about it?" exclaimed the other in surprise.

"Not a word. The pleasures of mere eating and drinking do not constitute the whole of domestic enjoyment. If the meal is not quite so good as expected, so much the more

necessity to increase, rather than to diminish, good feeling, which also has its office of recreating and strengthening. But I must not stand talking here," added Peterkin. "They will be looking for me at home. Mary, as I said was not well at dinner-time. She has a new girl in the kitchen, too; one in my opinion, not much to be relied on—good evening all."

And the young man started off with a light quick step. The one with whom he had been talking felt strongly inclined to utter a sneering commentary on the declaration of Peterkin; but certain contrasts between his home conduct and that of his business companion, were presented so vividly before his mind that in very shame he kept silent.

The day had been unusually hot and sultry, and the duties of Mr. Peterkin of an exhausting nature. Cheerful as he appeared, and lightly as he moved away, under the temporary excitement of mind occasioned by the little interview just mentioned, he found himself weary before reaching home. Hungry too, he was, and quite ready for a comfortable evening meal.

"It can't be seven o'clock, Henry," said his wife, as he entered; and she seemed slightly worried.

"Yes, and ten minutes past," answered Peterkin; and he sat down with an exhausted air, and commenced fanning himself with the broad brim of his Panama, which he still held in his hand. "What a trying day it has been," he remarked. "The hottest of the season."

"Get your father a cool drink of water, Anna," said Mrs. Peterkin to their little daughter, as soon as she perceived how weary, and heated her husband was.

The glass of water was quickly brought, for love in that household was ever prompt in action.

"Thank you, dear," said the father, with a smile, as he received the water. "Ah, that is refreshing!" he added, as he took the glass from his lips. "I feel a hundred per cent. better already. Hang up my hat, Carry. How's baby? She wasn't well when I left this morning."

"Poor little dear! She's been fretful all day," replied Mrs. Peterkin. "It has been so warm; and I think she's cutting a tooth—I've had her in my arms nearly all the afternoon. Hush! There, she is awake again. I was in hopes she would rest the evening through. O dear, I'm quite worn out! Carry, go up to your sister and try to amuse her, while I see about supper. This new girl is not to be depended upon."

Mrs. Peterkin went to the kitchen, where she found the promise of an early tea even

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worse than she had anticipated. But there was a kind of magic in her presence that quickly gave a new aspect to everything. A slight but skilful arrangement of the fire caused it to burn clearer, and a few prompt directions to the cook brightened the ideas of that individual wonderfully. Just as Mrs Peterkin's hands were fairly in the work, the babe, which had at first been partially quieted through Carry's efforts, began to scream violently.

"Oh, dear, dear!" exclaimed the mother, whose nerves were already so excited that she only maintained exterior composure through the most earnest effort. "What is to be done? I can't bear to hear that poor sick child's cries; and if I leave here, there's no telling when tea will be ready."

It only needed an impatient word from her husband to destroy the equilibrium for which Mrs. Peterkin was so bravely struggling. With him, at this moment, rested the happiness or unhappiness of this little household. He was depressed in body from weariness and hunger. He had looked forward to the evening meal with pleasure, and had expected, as usual, to find it on the table. Instead of this, he found his wife in a slightly worried state, and the supper he was so fully prepared to enjoy, far from being ready. It had cost him a little effort to hide his disappointment on discovering the aspect of affairs, when he first came in; but he gave utterance to cheerful words, and these restored cheerful feelings.

Left alone after his wife had gone to see about the evening meal, and his little daughter to quiet the baby, Mr. Peterkin's thoughts diverged into rather an usual channel for him, and he was actually saying to himself, "A little forecast on wife's part would have prevented this," when the baby's loud screams disturbed him. It was rarely that he suffered anything to annoy him at home. Now however, he did feel worried. An exhausted body left an exhausted mind. Over his countenance fitted an impatient expression, and a few contracting lines shadowed his forehead. For a little while he sat, the screams of the baby fluttering his nerves. Then he arose and was about passing into the kitchen, to say, half impatiently, "Do let supper alone, and go up to the baby," when a better thought was born of a better purpose; and instead of doing as at first inclined, he ascended to the chamber and, taking the child, quickly soothed it with gentle tones and loving words.

What a magic power to awaken discord or produce harmony was possessed by the husband and father in that little point of time! The good and evil impulses were for a moment or two evenly balanced, but good predominated, and a calmness fell upon the slightly troubled waters of his household. And such power

every husband and father possesses; yet how few use their influence, at all times, well and wisely!

So interested did Mr. Peterkin soon become in the now quiet and happy babe, that he forgot all about his hunger and weariness; and when supper was at last announced, he took his place at the table in a pleasant frame of mind, and communicated to all a measure of his cheerful spirit. If he noticed that the tea was smoked, or the toast burnt at the edge, he did not speak of it, and so relieved the mind of his wife, who felt worried at these little defects in their evening meal.

Baby cried no more. After tea, she fell off into a natural sleep, and did not awaken until the morning.

"Don't sew this evening, Mary," said Mr. Peterkin, as his wife took her work basket and drew up to the table on which she had just placed a lamp.

"It's only a little mending," she replied, with a grateful look at her husband for his kindness; "and it must be done to-night. It won't take me long."

"Woman's work is never done," said Mr. Peterkin. "I wish I could help you, but plying the needle is out of my line."

"You can read, however," answered his wife, with one of her pleasant smiles, "and that we can both enjoy."

Mrs. Peterkin, although it was an hour before she put up her needle, experienced no weariness of body during the time, for the deep interest she felt in the volume from which her husband read.

Peace drew that night around this humble family the curtains of repose. They were not rich in worldly goods; they were not honored among men, and yet few arose with a more cheerful spirit when the day dawned, or retired with calmer hearts when night called them to refreshing slumber. And why? We need not answer the question.

"And is this your 'good model!' of a husband!" we hear some fine young lady or "accomplished" gentleman say, with a captious toss of the head. "So a man must nurse the baby, and stay at home and read to his wife every night while she darns his stockings, or else he is not a good husband, according to your wonderfully elevated standard!"

And is this the spirit in which you have read? Well, we don't feel inclined to discuss the matter with you. Here is a model; we have called it a good one. It is taken from humble life. If all husbands, in every social grade, from the highest to the lowliest, will bear towards their wives the same unselfish regard that Mr. Peterkin bore towards his, there will be light in many dwellings where all now is darkness and discontent.

State Fair Premiums.

We have received from Jo. L. STEPHENS Esq. Recording Secretary of the Missouri State Agricultural Society an official invitation to attend the State Fair, also a list of premiums to be awarded; copies of the Constitution and By-Law, and of the address of U. Wright Esq. and Gen. J. L. Minor at the State Fairs of 1853 and 1854. The list of premiums was received too late for insertion in this number, but will be published next month. We append the following condensed statement by the Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE MISSOURI STATE AGRICULT'L SOC.
BOONVILLE, Missouri, 1855.

At the Third annual Fair of the Missouri State Agricultural Society, there are offered for award the following list of Premiums:

5	Premiums offered of \$50	each.....	\$250
91	do do do	20 each.....	420
13	do do do	15 each.....	195
94	do do do	10 each.....	640
12	do do do	8 each.....	104
4	do do do	7 50 each.....	59
1	do do do	7 each.....	7
51	do do do	5 each.....	405
36	do do do	3 each.....	108
29	do do do	2 50 each.....	75
34	do do do	2 each.....	45
11	do do do	1 each.....	11

213.....\$2,492

All persons desirous of becoming members for the year 1855, are requested to forward their names at once, with membership fee—five dollars—to Wm. H. Trigg, Treasurer. Upon the receipt of same, a certificate of membership will be returned.

The General Sale Day will be on Friday, the 5th day of October, 1855.

The Premium List, Charter, By-laws and Regulations of this Society, are intended for gratuitous circulation in this State, any person desiring to obtain the same, will be cheerfully supplied on application to this office by mail or otherwise
JO. L. STEPHENS, Rec. Sec'y.

In this mammon-worshipping Age, it is rare to find a man place his usefulness to the public, before his interest. During a late visit to the "City of Spindles," we were presented by a professional friend, to the celebrated Chemist, Dr. J. C. Ayer, whose name is now perhaps, more familiar than any other, at the bedside of sickness, in this country. Knowing the unprecedented popularity of his medicines, and the immense sale of them, we had expected to find him a millionaire, and rolling in wealth. But no, we found him in his laboratory, busy with his laborers, among his crucibles, alembics, and retorts—giving his best personal care to the compounds, on the virtues of which, thousands hang for health. We learned, that notwithstanding his vast business, and its prompt returns in cash, the Doctor is not rich. The reason assigned is, that the material is costly; and he persists in making his preparations so expensively, that the net profit is small.—*American Farmer.*

ST. LOUIS MARKET.

Saturday, July 7, 1855.

HEMP—\$100@108 ▼ ton, Hackled \$150.
FLOUR—▼ bbl. good country brands, \$7 50@8 25, choice brands, \$8 25; extra city. \$9.
WHEAT—▼ bushel, good to prime, \$1 15@1 25, choice, new, \$1 45.
COHN—▼ bushel 65@65 cents; sacks included.
OATS—▼ bushel, 42@45 cents, sacks included.
BARLEY—▼ bushel, \$1 00@1 25.
MESS PORK—▼ bbl., \$18.00.
FICKELED HAMS—▼ lb., 8@8 25 cents.
LARD—▼ lb., No. 1, 24@25 cents.
SUGAR—▼ lb., common, 5@5 25 cents.
MOLASSES—▼ gallon, 30 cents.
COFFEE—▼ lb., Rio, 10@11 1/2 cents.
PIG IRON—▼ ton, cold blast \$45@50.
HAY—▼ 100 lbs. timothy, \$1.
LEARN—65 cents ▼ 100 lbs.
SALT—▼ sack, G. A., \$1.55, Kadahwa, 40c ▼ bushel.
BUTTER—Prime table, 20@25c; inferior 10@15c.
SEED—Flaxseed, \$2.00, timothy do. \$2 60; Clover do. \$1.50@1.75 per bushel.
POTATOES—▼ bushel, 75c. @ \$1.10.
DRIED APPLES—\$2.25 ▼ bushel.

The August number of the Valley Farmer will contain sixteen pages more matter than this.

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along. Hearing a crackling behind them they turned round and perceived the load in flames, having taken fire in some way from the cigars. The flames spread rapidly, giving them barely time to unhitch their horses. The hay was entirely consumed, and the wagon considerably charred and blackened. No other damage was done, except that one of the gentlemen had his hand pretty severely scorched in the effort to save his horses—a fine pair of grays. Let this be a warning to smokers.—*Morgan Journal.*

Social Intercourse Among Farmers.

AN AMERICAN MECH GATHERING

From time immemorial a standing and valid objection to a "farm life" has been, that it is unsocial and lonely. Separated each from the other, as farmers usually are, by the broad, cultivated acres intervening, there is indeed a lack of frequent, daily and hourly intercourse, unknown to those following other avocations, where considerable numbers are thrown together under the same roof, or where, at least, their dwellings are contiguous. Mechanics and other occupants of villages and manufacturing towns are generally more intelligent and improve in their several callings faster, than farmers who come less in direct contact with those engaged in the same pursuit. Association gives mutual aid, and what is perhaps of higher importance, nothing ennobles our own profession more, and stimulates to increased exertion to improvement, than to mingle with a large company of those having the same aims, and seeking similar results by the same means as ourselves. The truth of this is exemplified in all public meetings of political associates, tradesmen, professional men, &c.

Latterly our annual agricultural shows have in a measure, supplied this desideratum to farmers. But these are by no means all that is wanted. In some few towns farmers' clubs are established, where weekly or semi-monthly or monthly meetings are held, and great good has already resulted. We hail the establishment of farmers' clubs as one of the best things of our day; and shall do all in our power to greatly multiply them and increase their usefulness; both with our pen and by personally assisting in their organizations at as many points as our time will admit of.

Yet there is a step still beyond these. While the members of a local club may do much to improve each other, a systematic correspondence and interchange of experience between different organizations, will prove of great value. Last week we witnessed an excellent illustration of what may be done. As this is the first instance of the kind that has come under our observation in this country, we speak of it more particularly as an example for

others. For sometime past a farmer's club has been in operation at Amenia, Dutchess Co., N. Y., and last spring one was organized in the town of Washington, same county.

The latter club appointed a day meeting for Friday last, for discussion on farm topics and for an address from one of the editors of this journal. Subsequently they sent a formal invitation to the Amenia Club to come over early in the day, and unite with them in examining some of their best stock, &c., to partake of a social dinner, and participate in the discussions and other exercises of the afternoon. In acceptance of this fraternal invitation, some twenty-five members of the Amenia Club arrived in Washington at 9 1-2 A. M., and with a number of the other Club they proceeded to the farm of Mr. Samuel Thorne, and spent three hours in critically examining one of the best collections of Short Horn cattle, Southdown sheep, Suffolk swine, Poultry, &c., to be found this or any other county. An examination of these animals, as they were feeding in their stalls and pastures, &c., a chance for minute inquiries into their history, breeding and keeping, thus afforded, was far more instructive and satisfactory than we generally get at our annual shows, where a few choice animals are collected and no opportunity is given for particular inquiries. A special vote of thanks was afterwards tendered to Mr. Thorne, for his kind attentions to the company visiting him.

From Mr. Thorne's the company proceeded to the village hotel, where a dinner had been prepared, in the discussion of which, and in social intercourse, the time passed pleasantly and profitably until 3 o'clock, the time appointed for the public exercises. As we took a prominent part in these, we shall be excused from describing them farther.

We will, however, record a proposal made by one of the members, which for want of time was laid over until the next meeting for consideration, and we hope for adoption in some form. It was, that a premium be offered to boys between 12 and 18 years of age, for the best cultivated small plot of ground under their own care. Such a course will do more than anything else to interest boys directly in the labors and improvements of cultivation, and divert their thoughts from that almost universal desire to leave the farm and crowd into cities and villages.

We look upon the meeting of the Clubs alluded to above, as one of the most interesting agricultural gatherings we have ever witnessed, and we earnestly hope that many such social reunions will hereafter take place, not between the agricultural clubs of Dutchess County only, but that they will become general throughout this country.—*American Ag.*

From the Maine Farmer.

A Chapter on Turkeys.

It would seem odd for a Yankee to keep "Thanksgiving Day" without a good fat roast turkey smoking on his table. But to have that goodly and important item of a Thanksgiving feast, you must rear them from the egg, and give them a good chance to grow and fatten. Every good farmer's wife; or perhaps we should say, every farmer's good wife, will tell you, that the most difficult part of this labor, is while they are young, that from the time they hatch until they are say two months old, they are very tender, but after that period they become hardy and give but little trouble, provided they can have a suitable range, for they are great rumpers and will travel over a good deal of space in the course of a day in pursuit of food.

They are fond of insects, especially grasshoppers. In the grasshopper hunt, if that insect is abundant, they seem to have a sort of military system. You will often see them marching along across the fields in platoons, shoulder to shoulder, eagerly catching the insect as they start up affrighted at the tramp of their enemy. After they have marched to the end of the field, they wheel by platoons and take another sweep back, all intent on catching their prey, and sociolly chatting, *too, tooet, tooet*, with each other until high fall, when they look out for roosting quarters, generally some wide branching tree, but sometimes the top rail of the fence.

The turkey, although we believe, now reared in all parts of the civilized world, is a *Native American*, that is, it is indigenous to North America—was found here on the first settlement of the country, and has been introduced from hence to all parts of the world, and has become almost indispensable in administering to the good living of the community.

We find in the *New England Farmer*, the following article on the turkey, which we doubt not will be read with interest and profit by many.

"Some thirty or forty years ago it was a rare thing with many families to have roasted turkey, or even a pair of chickens upon their table, more than once or twice in the year; and then on some particular occasions, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, or when some long absent friend had returned to sit once more at the family board. Good beef could then be purchased by the quarter at three to five cents a pound, and in small quantities for five to eight and nine cents a pound. At the same time nice turkeys brought ten to fifteen cents, and were looked upon by the mechanic and laborer as *tabooed* food to them. Now

the beef sells at from ten to seventeen cents, and poultry from eight to fifteen cents, tho' rarely commanding the latter price. Poultry is often on the tables of those who desire it, and is considered wholesome food, and considering the waste in each, as cheap as beef.

Turkeys cannot be profitably raised on small farms and in thickly settled neighborhoods, as they require a wide range and when they can enjoy it, will not only provide mainly for themselves until near autumn, but will also be of much service to the farmer, in destroying great numbers of grasshoppers and other insects that infest the farm. Indeed, some years when grasshoppers are numerous, a flock of turkeys on the farm will save whole crops of grass and grain.

There is no more difficulty in rearing turkeys the first two or three months than in rearing common fowls, and the same rules are applicable to parent and chick. The nest for sitting should be in a dry and secluded place, where the hen will not be disturbed—neither approaching the nest to turn the eggs or to feed her; she will perform the first duty herself when it becomes necessary, and come off for food when she requires it. It is very rarely the case that the chick needs any assistance in extricating itself from the shell, and many are injured by an impatient intermeddling with a matter which they understand, and will perform perfectly well, if left to themselves. Nor should they be interfered with for at least twenty-four hours after they are hatched—they want quiet and the warmth of the mother—not food. But if they leave the nest, and appear to be in search of food, place a little wet corn and cob meal before them, or corn, wheat or barley, pounded into quite small pieces.

Many foolish notions exist among poultry breeders, and many practices prevail which are a great deal worse than useless, and which some of the books on poultry—we are sorry to say—still inculcate. Almost any treatise on the subject will give some 20 or 30 pages on the *diseases of poultry*; but as it is much easier to *prevent* disease than to *cure* it, we shall recommend none of the medicaments or nostrums employed. When poultry is properly sheltered and fed, disease will only be the exception to the rule of general health. Want of proper food, irregular feeding, too many occupying a small space, exposure to cold, and more than all these combined, *exposure to wet*, are the prolific sources of disease in the poultry yard.

We believe that exposure to wet and cold is the principal cause of loss of the young of all kinds of domestic fowls, including even ducklings. Nearly the whole dismal catalogue of diseases—the pip, or gapes, diarrhoea, in-

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